MULTI AWARD WINNING!

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THE WORLD'S BEST **NEWS & FACTS** FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

AMAZING
Rare species born at zoo in St. Louis
p3

BIG NEWS
US votes in midterm elections
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BIG DEBATE
Which pie is best: apple or pumpkin?
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Nov. 18, 2022 • Vol. 3, Issue 135 • $5.99

Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

SERIES CHAMPS!

The Houston Astros win the 2022 World Series p18

HAVING THEIR SAY
More than 158.4 million Americans voted in the 2020 election—the highest voter turnout in decades.

An early voting location

Democracy in action

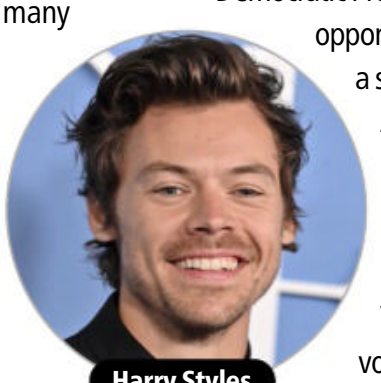
America is a representative democracy, meaning citizens elect their leaders. Although our readers are too young to vote, we know you have opinions about America's democratic process and the issues at stake in our elections. We want to hear them! On p28 you will find instructions for sharing your thoughts with us.

US votes in midterm elections

When *The Week Junior* went to press on November 8, millions of Americans were casting their ballots in the midterm elections. Millions of others had voted in the days leading up to Election Day. A midterm is the election held halfway through a President's four-year term. Hundreds of federal, state, and local races were on the ballot, and their outcome will play an important part in shaping the nation's future.

What is happening?

Americans went to the polls to decide who should hold positions in Congress (branch of government that makes laws) and many other key offices. Candidates have been campaigning hard for months, and many races across the US were extremely close going into Election Day. That means a small number of votes could put one candidate ahead of another. Congressional races included all 435 seats in the House of Representatives (one half of Congress) and 34 out of the 100 seats in the Senate (the other half of Congress). Voters in 36 states also cast ballots for governor (a state's top leader). Also at the state level, people voted for hundreds of judges. The makeup of each state's top courts is important because they often send major cases to the US Supreme Court (most powerful court of law). Local races, including positions on school boards, were also on the ballot.



Harry Styles

Why are the midterms important?

The midterm elections determine which of the two major political parties (Democrats and Republicans) controls half or all of Congress. The party in charge decides which laws to consider and vote on. Democrats have controlled Congress for the past two years. If Republicans take control, Democratic President Joe Biden will have fewer opportunities to pursue his agenda. In a speech, Biden urged all eligible Americans to vote. "We want every American's voice to be heard," he said on November 2.

How are people voting?

Voters can participate in early voting, mail in an absentee ballot, or vote in person on Election Day. More than 44 million people cast their vote early, including more than 24 million who mailed in ballots and 20 million who voted early in person. Overall, the numbers were higher than early voting numbers in 2018, when the last midterm elections took place. That year, turnout was higher than at any point in the past 100 years, and experts predicted that the 2022 turnout would be similar. Americans who are 18 or older are eligible to vote and must register to do so. British pop star Harry Styles participated in a registration drive run by the nonprofit HeadCount and set a record by helping to register more than 54,000 new voters.

What are voters saying?

Many polls found that the issue voters are most concerned about is the economy. Bob Smith of Pennsylvania said he was voting Republican because inflation (the cost of goods and services) has risen over the past two years while Democrats were in power. Many Democrats said they will vote for candidates who support people's right to privacy, access to healthcare, and voting rights. For others, integrity was the highest priority. Ron Flores of California told AP News that his main questions for candidates are, "Are you honest? Are you going to do what we want you to do?"

What will happen next?

Once the polls close on November 8, votes will be counted, which may take several days in some places. Winners will be sworn in and take office by early January. The newly elected Congress begins its next session on January 3, 2023.

Prime minister returns in Israel

On November 3, Benjamin Netanyahu was elected as Israel's next prime minister (head of government, similar to a president). He had previously held this office from 1996 to 1999 and from 2009 to 2021 and is the longest-serving prime minister in the country's history.

This is the nation's fifth election in less than four years. In Israel, the main branch of government that makes laws is the Knesset (which is similar to Congress and means "Assembly" in Hebrew). The Knesset has 120 members. Instead of voting for candidates, citizens vote for parties to the Knesset, and the party that gets the most votes chooses the prime minister.

Netanyahu, who is widely known by the nickname Bibi, is the leader of the Likud party. His administration is expected to take a tough stance on the dispute between Israel and Palestine that has gone on for more than 70 years. Netanyahu is also currently on trial in Israel for corruption (using power for personal or political gain). That trial is expected to continue.

Benjamin Netanyahu

DID YOU KNOW?

Five countries cause nearly half of the environmental impact of food production: the US, India, China, Brazil, and Pakistan.

Cows have a big environmental impact.

How diet affects the planet

A new study offers insight into how the food we eat affects the environment. Researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara, examined nearly 99% of global food production. They found that the five types of food with the biggest environmental impact are pork, beef, rice, wheat, and oils.

The study looked at water used for crops and livestock (animals raised for food), emissions of greenhouse gases (which contribute to the warming of the planet), pollution from fertilizer and manure, and the disturbance of habitats. Pork and beef had the greatest impact on the planet, due to pig waste polluting waterways and cows producing greenhouse gases. The feed used for livestock added to the environmental footprint.

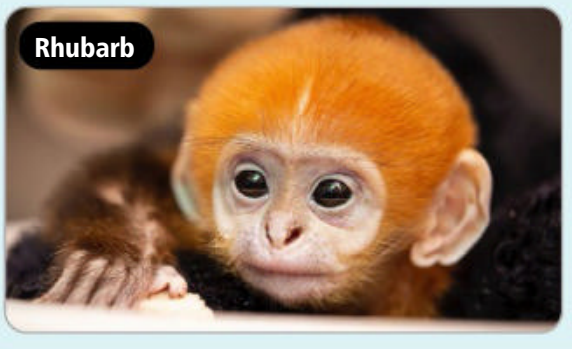
Rice and wheat made the list because they are grown in huge quantities and require a lot of water. Oil crops, such as canola and palm, are on the list because they're also grown in high volume. Seafood provides only 1.1% of the world's food but creates 9.9% of the environmental footprint, in part because fishing destroys marine habitats.

People who want to eat in a more planet-friendly way can eat less meat and more plants, experts say. Beans and other legumes can replace meat and fish as sources of healthy protein. Choosing organic food can help reduce the amount of pesticides released into the environment. "There are so many possible solutions to reducing the environmental footprint of food production," said lead researcher Ben Halpern.

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A WELCOME ARRIVAL

Rhubarb, a rare and colorful Francois' langur monkey, was born at the St. Louis Zoo in Missouri. The zoo said Rhubarb is the first langur ever born there, calling her arrival "an important birth for this endangered species."



Rhubarb

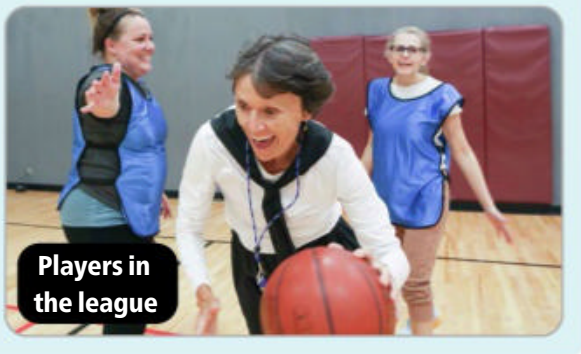
The winner

PRIZE-WINNING CHEESES

The world's best cheese was crowned at the 2022 World Cheese Awards held in Wales, UK. On November 2, an international panel of judges sniffed and sampled 4,434 entries from 42 countries. The winner was a Swiss Gruyère, which they described as "a cheese with a lot of taste."

STAYING IN THE GAME

The Texas 2 Steps is the latest team to join the Granny Basketball League, a national league for women over age 50. Games are played in 1920s-style bloomers (a type of pants). "You instantly make friends," said team member Chris Crowe, who played hoops in high school. "If you're not any good, nobody really cares."



Players in the league

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (4); ST. LOUIS ZOO; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); ST. LOUIS ZOO; WORLD CHEESE AWARDS; JASON FOCHTMAN; ON THE LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3)

DID YOU KNOW?
The US first adopted the practice of daylight saving time in 1918.

Most people in the US change their clocks twice a year.

Time around the world

About 70 countries, mostly in North America, South America, and Europe, observe daylight saving time (DST) and change the clocks twice a year. Africa and most of Asia are on standard time all year. In October, Mexico's government voted to eliminate DST for most of the country, and the bill is expected to be signed into law.

Debate about daylight saving time continues

Daylight saving time (DST) ended on November 6 at 2 am. In most of the US, clocks were turned back an hour to resume standard time. Lawmakers, sleep experts, educators, and others are debating whether this practice should change.

What is happening?

All US states except Hawaii and most of Arizona follow DST from March to November and standard time from November to March. This year, the Senate (one half of Congress) passed the Sunshine Protection Act, which would make DST permanent and end the need to change the time. The bill wasn't taken up by the House of Representatives (other half of Congress), however, so the official discussion at the federal (national) level ended.

What does the research show?

Most sleep doctors say standard time is healther for people. It is more closely linked to people's natural day and night cycles because more light is provided in the morning and less in the evening. "Your body clock stays with (natural) light, not with the clock on your wall," Elizabeth Klerman, a professor at Harvard Medical School, told CNN. Other experts prefer the extra light in the evening that DST provides. Studies show it boosts opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors in the evening and can lower the risk of car accidents.

How are people reacting?

Some people, such as store owners, are happy with the current system because it allows the US to maximize light at all times of the year. Others want to do away with switching the clocks. Keema Waterfield told *Insider* that she doesn't like the disruption to her children's sleep. "I don't care which way the time goes, standard or daylight, just that it stays there," she said. Some educators are happy to be back on standard time. "The change in time allows for more daylight in the morning hours so that students can walk safely to bus stops," said Scott Muri, the top leader of a Texas school district.

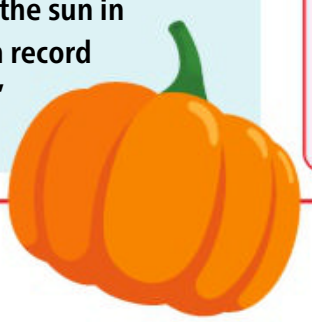
What will happen next?

The debate over switching the clocks will continue. In 2023, the next Congress will decide whether to take up the Sunshine Protection Act. At least 19 states have passed laws or approved resolutions to permanently adopt DST, but they need Congress to act in order to put the change into effect.

WORD OF THE WEEK

PUMPKIN

The word "pumpkin" began in English as pumpion, meaning a "large melon." The story of both words began with the Greek adjective *pepon*, meaning "ripened" or "cooked," perhaps because pumpkins are ripened or "cooked" by the sun in the fall. The first known record of the use of "pumpkin" is from 1664.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

November 12, 1954

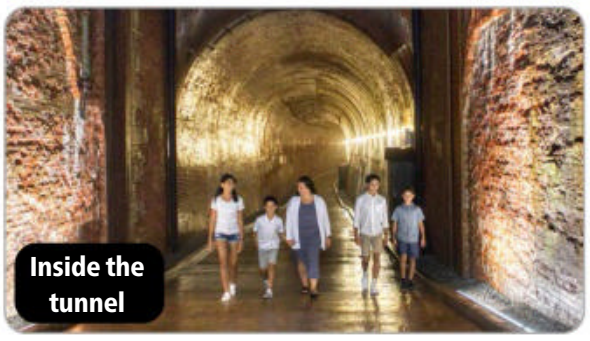
Ellis Island ceases operations

On November 12, 1954, Ellis Island, the immigration processing center in New York Harbor, closed its doors after 62 years and its services were moved to New York City. Known as the "gateway to America" and named for its landowner Samuel Ellis, it was the entry point for more than 15 million immigrants. In 1965, it was declared a national monument. More than 2 million people visit it each year.

A Veterans Day parade

Veterans Day holiday observed

When *The Week Junior* went to press, the US was set to observe Veterans Day. Held each year on November 11, the holiday honors the nearly 20 million people who have served in the US military. Schools and government offices are closed, and parades and celebrations are held. The holiday came about in 1919 to mark the end of World War 1 (1914–1918). It was called Armistice Day because November 11 was when an armistice (truce) was signed.



Inside the tunnel

Tunnel at Niagara Falls opens

A huge tunnel underneath Niagara Falls that was built more than 100 years ago has opened to visitors. From 1906 to 2006, water from Niagara Falls, the famous waterfalls that border New York state and Canada, flowed through the tunnel to create electricity. Visitors take a glass-enclosed elevator 180 feet down to get to the tunnel, which reveals breathtaking views of the falls.

A view of San Francisco

Best sandwich cities revealed

In a survey of 700 cities in all 50 states, San Francisco, California, was named the best city for sandwiches. It has more than 950 delis that offer a variety of sandwiches with special spreads and toppings, according to the survey conducted by Apartmentguide, a home rental agency. Sarasota, Florida, was the second-best sandwich city, and Wilmington, Delaware, came in third place.

The theater's new sign

ENJOY THE SHOW

There are officially 41 Broadway theaters in New York City, each with 500 or more seats.

Historic renaming of Broadway theater

The first Broadway theater to be named after a Black woman was officially unveiled in New York City on November 1. The Lena Horne Theatre honors the life and work of performer and activist Lena Horne (1917–2010). The theater, built in 1926 and located on West 47th Street, was previously named the Brooks Atkinson Theatre.

Lena Calhoun Horne was born in Brooklyn, New York. She began singing and dancing professionally as a teenager and went on to perform in five Broadway shows. In 1981, she earned a Tony (top Broadway award) for her work.

Horne won multiple Grammys (top music award) for her singing. During her life, she also starred in many popular films and on television shows. In 1984, Horne was awarded a Kennedy Center Honor for her contribution to the arts.

Horne was an active participant in the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1963, she attended the March on Washington where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his historic "I Have a Dream" speech. She spoke out against theaters and restaurants that discriminated against Black people and pressed them to treat people equally.

The theater unveiling was attended by New York Governor Kathy Hochul, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, and Broadway performers. Horne's granddaughter, actress Jenny Lumet, spoke. "This is a celebration of the contributions of Black women to theater history," she said.

Lena Horne in about 1950

The renaming of the theater is part of a larger pledge that theater owners have made to be more inclusive and diverse. In September, the Cort Theatre in New York City was renamed after legendary Black actor James Earl Jones.

At the unveiling, singer Vanessa Williams said she was grateful for the changes Horne helped bring about. "She opened so many doors for us that we as people of color can thank her for being a beacon of light," Williams said.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Bear wanders into California cafe, steals cookies" ***UPI***

GETTY IMAGES (5); NIAGARA FALLS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

Around the world

The old cameras

Yukon, Canada
Climbers recover cameras from 1937

A team of mountain explorers has discovered cameras that were abandoned by climbers 85 years ago. In 1937, Bradford Washburn and Robert Bates hit bad weather on Mount Lucania and hiked 100 miles to safety. They left their cameras, which were too heavy to carry. The team studied maps, old photos, and satellite images to find the equipment. Some cameras have film in them, and experts plan to see if they can recover any images.

Leaders of Arab League countries

Algiers, Algeria
Arab League meets after two years

Leaders of the Arab League, a group of countries in the Middle East and North Africa that work together, met for the first time in two years in Algiers (Algeria's capital). They discussed problems in the region, including rising food and fuel prices, and how to cooperate to help solve them. The league reported that several decisions were made, such as increasing agricultural trade among Arab states.

The Amazon rainforest

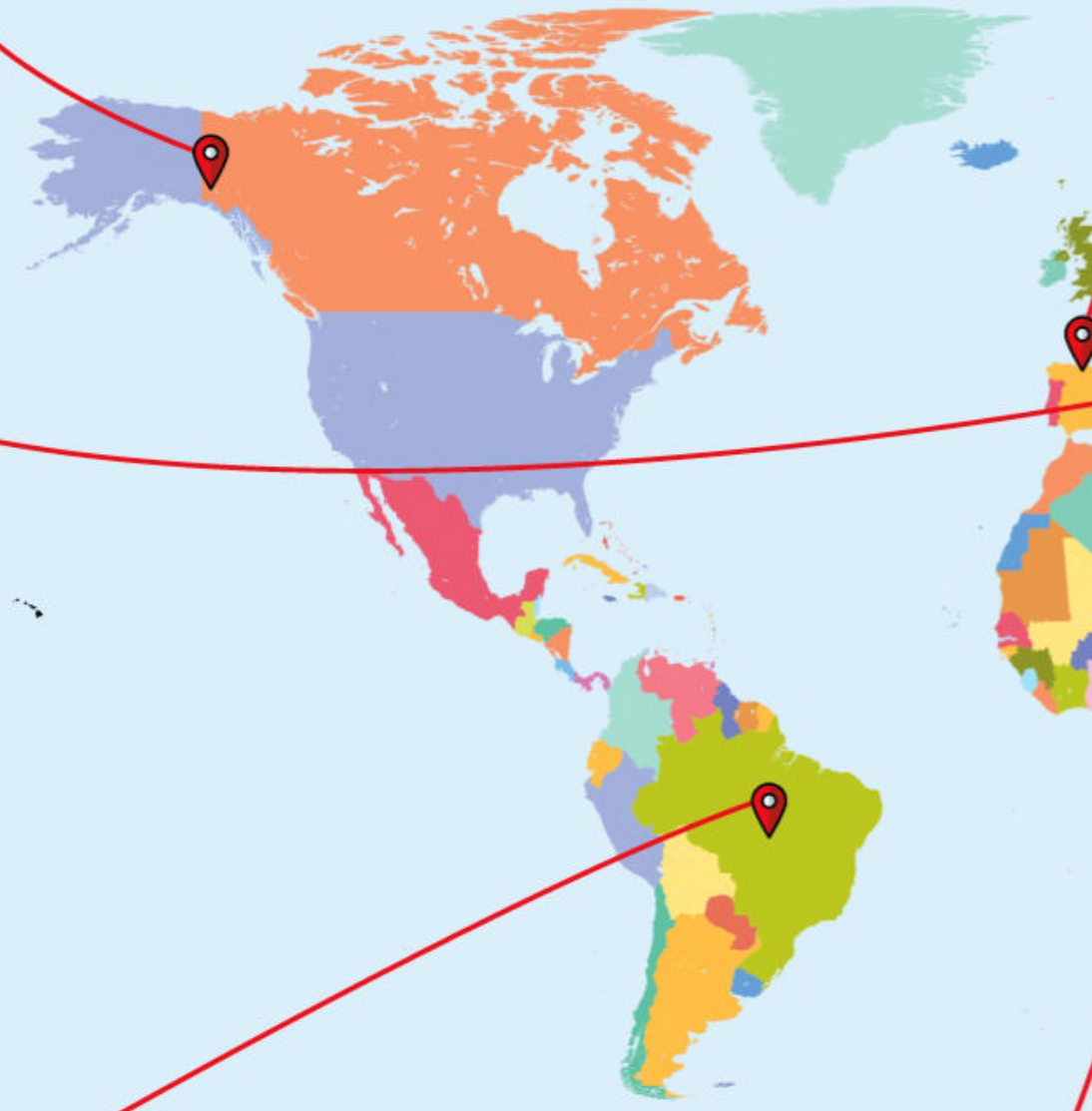
Brazil
Rainforest countries to team up

Brazil, Indonesia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which are home to 52% of the world's tropical rainforests, are in talks to create an alliance of rainforest countries. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who was recently elected Brazil's next president, is leading the discussions. The alliance would protect rainforests from being cut down and seek support from richer countries.

Bilbao, Spain
Museum turns 25

The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao is celebrating 25 years since it opened in 1997. The museum is credited with transforming the formerly struggling city of Bilbao into a thriving cultural destination. About 25 million tourists have visited the modern building since it opened. The museum's message for its anniversary is "Art inspires the future."

The Guggenheim Museum



Lagos, Nigeria
Art fair takes place

ART X, the biggest art fair in West Africa, returned to Lagos, Nigeria, from November 4 to 6. The fair, which shows work from more than 120 artists in 40 African countries, focused on climate change (the long-term changes in weather patterns, including temperature, largely due to human activities). Many of the artworks focused on local solutions to climate change, which has caused many problems in Nigeria and West Africa.

The ART X art fair

ALAMY (4); GETTY IMAGES (3); REUTERS; TSAVO EAST NATIONAL PARK; LESLIE HITTMEIER/WASHBURN CACHE DISCOVERY PR

Around the world

The rare figures

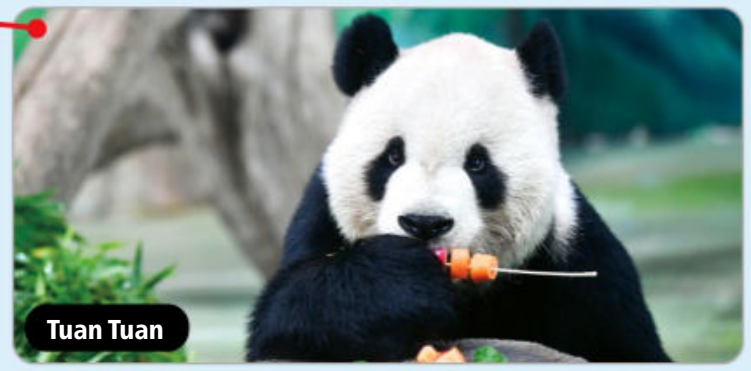
Athens, Greece
Treasures are displayed

Rare Greek artifacts are on display in Athens for the first time after an agreement between the Greek government, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, and the US collector who owns them. The pieces, about 5,000 years old, will be on display for a year and then return to the US for 25 years. However, some say the art should stay in Greece.

At the summit

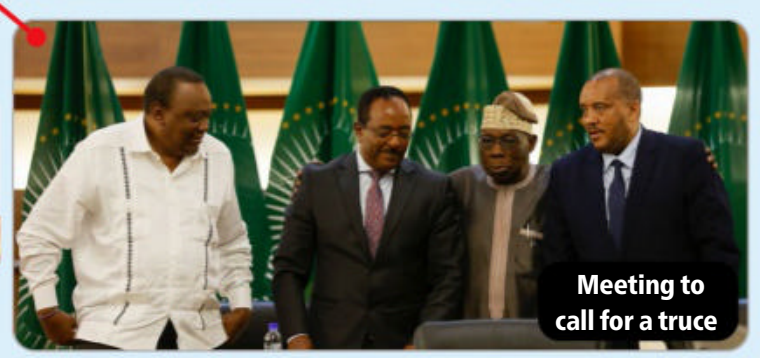
Egypt
Global climate summit begins

COP27, the two-week United Nations climate summit, started in the seaside city Sharm El-Sheikh on November 6. World leaders and diplomats will discuss how to fight climate change amid the Ukraine-Russia war, inflation, and limited energy supply. More than 40,000 participants are registered for this year's talks, and Egypt said more than 120 world leaders, including US President Joe Biden, will attend.


Tuan Tuan

Taipei, Taiwan
Zoo asks Chinese vets to help panda

Taiwan is seeking help to treat a very popular 18-year-old panda named Tuan Tuan at Taipei Zoo who is unwell. China gifted the male panda to Taiwan in 2008. There are now tensions between the neighboring nations, however, because China has said it wants control of Taiwan. Despite the tensions, Taiwan has invited veterinarians from China to help Tuan Tuan and is processing the visas (government travel permission) for their expected arrival.

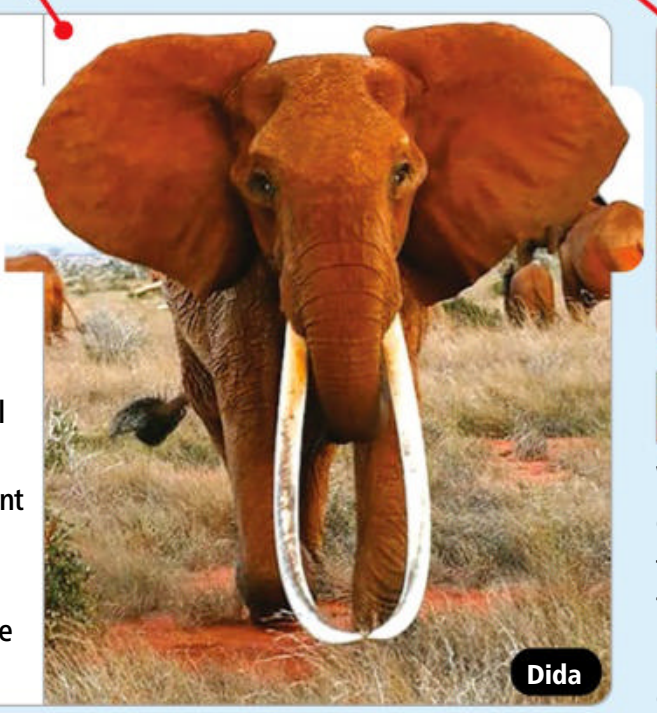

Meeting to call for a truce

Ethiopia
Peace agreement signed

Warring parties in Ethiopia have agreed on a peace agreement to end a two-year conflict that has caused a humanitarian crisis in the country. Representatives from Ethiopia's government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) met in Kenya on November 7 for the talks, which were mediated by the African Union (an organization of 55 African countries that work together).

Coast Province, Kenya
Famous elephant dies

Dida, a famous elephant in Kenya, has died of old age. She was between 60 and 65 years old and was known by tourists and those who worked with her as the "queen" of the Tsavo East National Park. Dida was believed to be the largest female "tusker" (an elephant with tusks so long that they touch the ground) in Africa. She was described by Kenya Wildlife Service as having "lived a full life."


Dida

Is pumpkin pie better than apple pie?

Two classic desserts will battle it out at holiday tables. Which do you like best?

What you need to know

- **About 186 million pies are sold in grocery stores in the US every year. Many more are sold at bakeries or restaurants or made at home.**
- **According to a 2021 poll, pumpkin pie is America's favorite Thanksgiving pie, with 34% of the votes.**
- **Apple pie was voted the favorite flavor by 19% of Americans.**
- **Pie preferences differ by region. In the western US, 43% preferred pumpkin. In the Northeast, apple won with 32% of the vote.**

BOUGHT OR BAKED?
In a 2021 survey, people in Hawaii were the most likely to buy pre-made pies, while Vermonters were most likely to make their own.

Thanksgiving is almost here, which means many families are getting ready to enjoy a tradition that goes back hundreds of years: baking and eating delicious pie. At this time of year, two of the most popular flavors are pumpkin and apple. Both pie fillings typically include spices like cinnamon and nutmeg, but their taste and texture are totally different. Some people insist on the smooth custard of a classic pumpkin pie after a holiday meal. Others prefer chewy chunks of tart and sweet apples for a fall-friendly fruit pie. Which one would you want on your table? Is pumpkin pie better than apple pie?

Yes—pumpkin is perfect

Pumpkin was one of America's first crops, and it had a place on the fall table by the early 18th century. Even 300 years ago, Americans knew it was the best pie. The blend of soft pumpkin purée and sweet milk or cream becomes a delectable, rich custard filling that simply can't be beat. And there's a reason pumpkin spice has become fall's signature flavor, with its warm, comforting mix of cinnamon, nutmeg, and other spices. As a bonus, pumpkins are packed full of vitamins and nutrients that are good for your body. So cut a perfectly shaped slice of pumpkin goodness and dig in.

No—apple pie all the way

Apple pie is just about as old as our country and even appeared in America's first cookbook. Have you heard the expression "It's as American as apple pie"? No one says that about pumpkin pie! Today, there are countless variations on the classic, with different spices and flavorings, dried fruits and nuts, and different crusts, such as the beautiful braided lattice top. Apple pie has a top crust while pumpkin pie does not, so apple is the clear winner for people who love the balance of fruit and buttery pie crust. And, to quote another expression, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." That means apples are nutritious and help keep us healthy.

YES Three reasons why pumpkin pie is better than apple pie

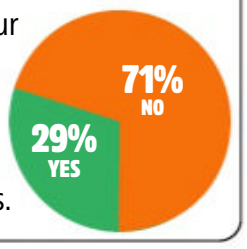
1. **Pumpkin was one of America's first crops, and pumpkin pie has been a Thanksgiving tradition for hundreds of years.**
2. **Its creamy texture gives you perfect bites that melt in your mouth, and the classic warming spice blend defines fall.**
3. **Pumpkins are full of vitamins and nutrients, so they're super healthy.**

NO Three reasons why pumpkin pie is not better than apple pie

1. **Apple pie is a classic American dish that is almost as old as our nation.**
2. **There are so many variations of apple pie to make and enjoy, including some with different types of apples, spices, dried fruit, nuts, and crust.**
3. **Apples aren't just tasty—they're also nutritious and part of a healthy diet.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if people should be eating more insects. Your answers gave us a taste of your thoughts: 71% of you said no, and 29% said yes.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think pumpkin pie is better than apple pie or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

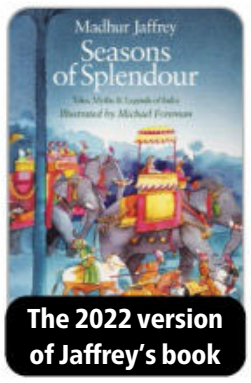
GETTY IMAGES

Cooking up traditions

Author Madhur Jaffrey shares how to make Indian food with the world.

When Madhur Jaffrey was growing up in Delhi, India, she wanted to be an actress. She caught the acting bug at age 5, when she played a mouse in a school play, and later grew up to star in theater, on television, and in movies.

But Jaffrey also had a love for cooking. When she was an adult, she moved to London, UK, and cooked Indian dishes as a way to feel less homesick. It inspired a best-selling cookbook, *An Invitation to Indian Cooking*, which brought classic Indian food, from chutneys to butter chicken, to thousands of Western readers. More cookbooks followed, as well as a hit British TV show titled *Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery*. Jaffrey reached wide audiences with a simple culinary style with lots of flavor. (She has jokingly referred to herself as "the original Spice Girl.")



The 2022 version of Jaffrey's book

Today, Jaffrey, age 89, lives in Hillsdale, New York, and continues to act, write, and cook. Much of her cooking inspiration comes from her childhood in Delhi, where she was one of six children in a large extended family. Worried that the traditions and Hindu mythology her family passed down would someday be lost, she found a way to preserve that past, by celebrating the cooking of her childhood. She weaved the stories of her elders into a popular book for young readers, titled *Seasons of Splendour: Tales, Myths and Legends of India.*

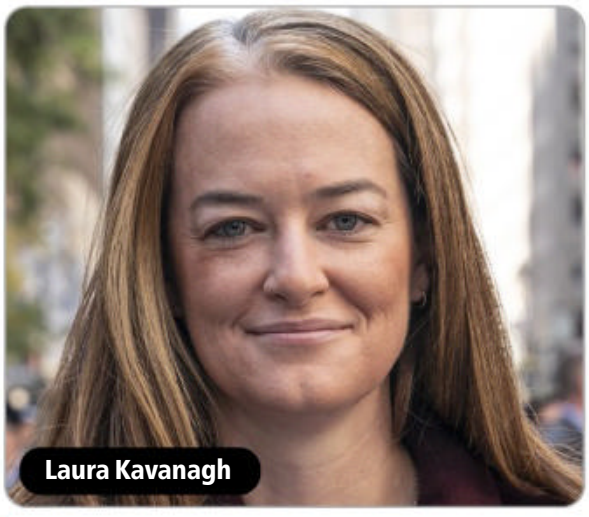
It was recently reissued, with illustrations by acclaimed children's book artist Michael Foreman, for a new generation of young readers. "In my family," Jaffrey told *The New York Times*, "we are a great bunch of storytellers."

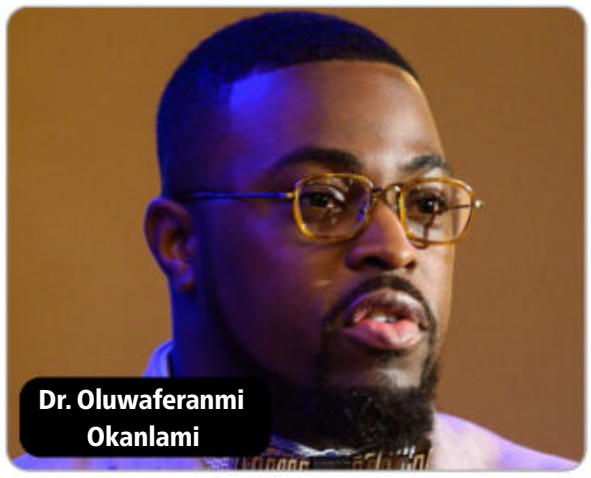
Madhur Jaffrey

DID YOU KNOW?
India is one of the world's leading producers of spices and its largest producer of milk and fish.

A firefighter first

On October 27, New York City Mayor Eric Adams appointed Laura Kavanagh fire commissioner of the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), making her the first female to lead the department in its 157-year history. Kavanagh has been the acting commissioner since February, when Commissioner Daniel Nigro retired. She joined the FDNY in 2014 and directed a firefighter recruitment campaign that brought in many more women and people of color. In a speech, she said being first "only matters if I am not the last."


Laura Kavanagh


Dr. Oluwaferanmi Okanlami

Big donation given

Dr. Oluwaferanmi Okanlami, also known as "Dr. O," works to improve access to adaptive sports for people with physical disabilities at the University of Michigan. Last month, on *Good Morning America*, he was surprised with a $1 million donation from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation, which supports people with spinal cord injuries. Okanlami suffered a spinal cord injury years ago and uses a wheelchair. The former college athlete has since dedicated himself to empowering others like him. Of the prize, he said, "Disability is a fabric in the world of diversity."

OVERHEARD

"If I can find one little thing to be grateful for, then it reverses the whole situation and allows for the possibility of grace, of something fantastic happening."

Actor Michael J. Fox on keeping a positive attitude amid health struggles. Fox, age 61, starred in the *Back to the Future* films in the 1980s and is an advocate for curing Parkinson's disease.

GETTY IMAGES (3); AUSTIN THOMASON/MICHIGAN PHOTOGRAPHY/UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

A European tree frog

DID YOU KNOW?
The word used to describe a group of frogs is an "army."

Create a wildlife habitat

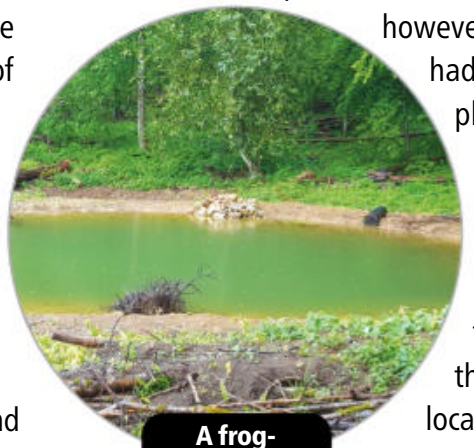
Experts say anyone can help make habitats for wildlife, even in a small space. Options include planting milkweed to attract monarch butterfly caterpillars or flowering plants to attract adult butterflies; setting up a birdbath or nest boxes for birds; or growing native plants (ask a nursery) to attract insects for birds to eat.

A butterfly

More ponds make frog numbers jump

A project to dig more ponds in a part of Switzerland has caused a big increase in the number of amphibians (animals that live both in water and on land). The project, which took place over 20 years, boosted the populations of more than half of the endangered species of frogs, toads, and newts.

Amphibians all over the world have been in trouble for years because of habitat destruction, disease, and invasive species (species that come from somewhere else and take over). In Aargau in Switzerland, amphibians couldn't live in some of the area's ponds because they were too small and had too many predators.


A frog-friendly pond

European tree frogs like a very particular type of habitat: shallow ponds created by winding rivers. They also like to travel, jumping from pond-side shrubs to nearby trees. By 1999, however, this kind of landscape had disappeared in many places in Switzerland.

The situation facing amphibians—and especially the European tree frog—was so bleak that people decided to create new ponds to give them more space to thrive. The local government, landowners, nonprofit organizations, and hundreds of volunteers got involved. Working together, they dug 422 ponds in Aargau where frogs could live.

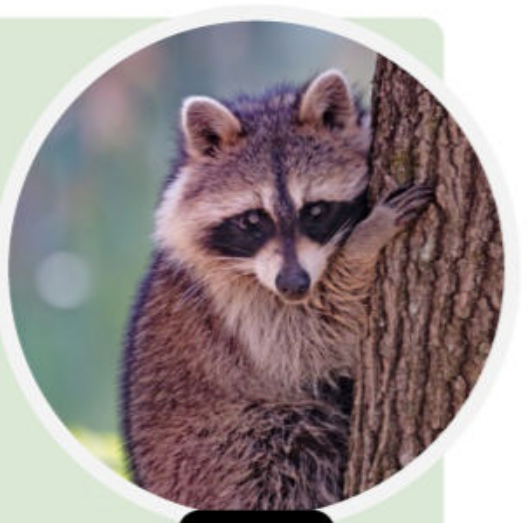
The project appears to be a huge success. The creation of the new ponds helped 52% of amphibian species increase their numbers and stopped losses in another 32%. In one area, the population of the European tree frog rose by four times during the 20 years. Scientist Helen Moor explained that solving habitat loss was the key to success. "Just by addressing that, we could see the difference it made and begin the recovery of these species," she told the BBC news agency.

Scientists will continue to monitor the species' progress, and ponds will need to be occasionally drained to remove the larvae of predators, which are a threat to tadpoles. Researchers hope that more communities will be inspired by the pond project and build similar frog-friendly habitats.

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

Spread across 70,000 acres, this nature reserve straddles two states: New Jersey and Pennsylvania. There are 150 miles of scenic trails, passing through beautiful rhododendrons and hemlock trees, and Dingman Falls, one of the most popular waterfalls in the park. The park has 62 campsites along the Delaware River with views of the pristine night sky. History buffs will enjoy visiting Millbrook Village, a former agricultural settlement. While in the park, keep an eye out for black bears, raccoons, wild turkeys, and ruby-throated hummingbirds.


A raccoon

A gorilla, right, hangs among chimpanzees.

FUN FACT
The first non-human to learn to communicate using sign language was a chimpanzee in captivity named Washoe.

Chimps and gorillas are friends

Gorillas and chimpanzees may be different primate species, but they can be friends, according to new research. In a forest in the Republic of the Congo, in central Africa, researchers from Washington University studied the animals for 21 years. In that time, they noted 285 interactions between chimps and gorillas—some lasting several hours. The apes spent most of their time eating together, chasing one another, wrestling, and play-fighting.

Interactions often occurred when a group of chimpanzees found a good meal and their excited noises attracted a family of gorillas. In 34% of the encounters, the animals proceeded to eat or look for different food together.

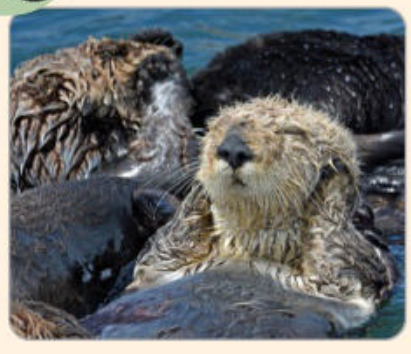
Some relationships lasted for years, with apes going straight to their friend whenever two groups met. They had disagreements, like any friends, but they rarely actually fought. "They're not spending all of their time together," said researcher Crickette Sanz, "but they're definitely coming together more consistently and regularly than we'd anticipated."

Animal of the week: Flamingo chicks

Two Chilean flamingo chicks have hatched at the Houston Zoo in Texas, which now has a total of 53 flamingos. The first chicks to hatch at the zoo in six years, they have been named Astro and Orbit in honor of the Houston Astros.

- **LIFE SPAN:** About 40 years
- **HABITAT:** Lakes and lagoons in South America
- **SIZE:** About 31 to 57 inches long
- **DIET:** Includes algae, shrimp, and water plants
- **FUN FACT:** Baby flamingos are gray or white at first before turning pink from the food they eat.

Good week / Bad week



Sea otters

Chicago's Shedd Aquarium has taken in two rescued female southern sea otters. The aquarium will raise them to be foster mothers for sea otter orphans. The moms will teach baby otters life skills that will help them return to the wild.

Mountain lions

California wildfires have caused mountain lions to take more risks crossing busy roads, putting their lives in danger, a study has found. After a large fire in 2018, lions increased road crossings from three to five times, on average, per month.

Ask a zookeeper: "Do sharks have good hearing?" Maya, 8, South Carolina

Sam Ehinger
Biologist,
Adventure Aquarium

Yes! Sharks have excellent hearing, but their ears are much different than ours. Their ears are located inside their heads and rely on vibrations in the water to sense movement. Sound travels faster underwater than on land, and hearing is often the first sense sharks use to detect prey.

A shark

Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*
Find out more about the Adventure Aquarium in New Jersey at adventureaquarium.com.

ON THIS PAGE: GTAP/WCS; TOM HOPWOOD:; GETTY IMAGES (3); ON LEFT PAGE: THOMAS REICH; BENEDIKT SCHMIDT; GETTY IMAGES (3)

The top tournament

One of the world's most-watched sports competitions returns.

Held every four years, the FIFA World Cup is the biggest tournament in men's international soccer. This year, 32 countries will compete in Qatar from November 20 to December 18. Find out how the event began and which teams to watch.

The Uruguay team in 1930

The first FIFA winner's medal

History of the World Cup

Soccer became an Olympic sport in 1900, but since the Olympics featured only amateur athletes, the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), the global governing body for soccer, created its own championship for professionals. The first World Cup in 1930 featured 13 teams and was held in Uruguay, which also won and was honored with a gold medal. From 1958 through 1970, Brazil, led by superstar Pelé, won three World Cups. In 1986, Diego Maradona scored the greatest goal in World Cup history while leading Argentina to glory. The first World Cup to have 32 teams took place in 1998, and host country France won.

How the tournament works

There are six regions (such as the European region) in international soccer, and 31 teams make the World Cup based on how they perform in matches in their region. The country hosting the Cup automatically qualifies. Then the 32 World Cup teams are drawn into eight groups of four teams. Teams play other teams in their group for points. The two with the most points in each group advance to the first knockout round. Winners advance to the eight-team quarterfinals, then four-team semifinals, then the final match.

Kylian Mbappé of France

GETTY IMAGES

MORE TO COME
The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup kicks off in July and will be held in Australia and New Zealand.

The 2018 FIFA World Cup final between France and Croatia

What they wore

Brazil, 1970

The bright yellow team jerseys (called kits) worn by Brazil dazzled almost as much as their play when the team won the 1970 World Cup.

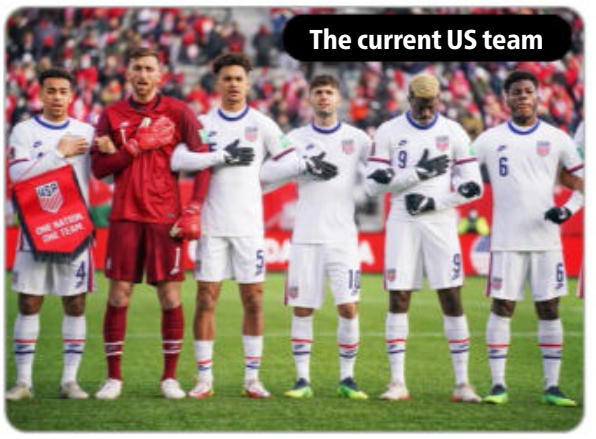
West Germany, 1990

Lothar Matthuas led West Germany to World Cup glory in Italy in 1990 while wearing this look. The stripe running across the chest later inspired the design of one of Germany's jerseys for the 2018 World Cup.

in men's soccer

BIG WINNERS
Brazil has won the most World Cups, with five, followed by Germany and Italy with four each.

WOW!
Landon Donovan holds the record for the most goals scored in the World Cup by a US men's player, with five.



The current US team

The US at the World Cup

The modern era of the US Men's National Team began in 1990, when the USMNT played in the World Cup for the first time in 40 years. The 1994 World Cup, which was hosted by the US, was a huge success and led to the creation of Major League Soccer. The USMNT's best performance in the modern era came when the team made the World Cup quarterfinals in 2002. This year's team is led by talented young players like Christian Pulisic, who is one of only three Americans to score 20 goals in the Premier League (England's top tier in soccer), and defensive midfielder Tyler Adams, who often serves as the team's captain.

Lionel Messi of Argentina

Other teams to watch

England, led by star striker Harry Kane, is the favorite to win the USMNT's group and expected to go far in the tournament after strong performances in the recent European Championship. Many eyes will be on Argentina star Lionel Messi, one of the greatest players of all time, who, at age 35, has said this will be his last World Cup. Another favorite to win the tournament is Brazil, led by Neymar da Silva Santos Júnior. Defending champion France has a talented squad that includes superstar forward Kylian Mbappé. After this year's Cup, teams will compete again in four years, but that tournament will be even bigger. The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be held jointly by the US, Canada, and Mexico and will feature 48 teams.

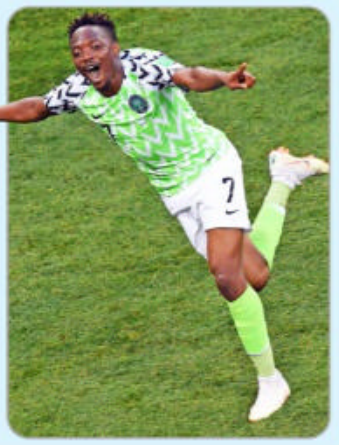
The World Cup trophy

The US, 1994

The US made quite a style statement for the first World Cup it hosted, with shirts made of denim (the material used to make blue jeans) and decorated with white stars. Some fans loved them; others did not.

Nigeria, 2018

Inspired by the team's 1994 and 1995 jerseys, the Super Eagles' kit was so popular it sold out before the World Cup even began. The tournament was held in Russia that year, and France won.



DID YOU KNOW?
Studies show that the average person scratches an itch about 97 times a day.

People often scratch when someone else does.

Studying how mice "catch" an itch

Have you ever seen someone scratch an itch and suddenly felt an overwhelming urge to do the same? Scientists call this experience "contagious itching." A team from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, studied it in mice and found that the behavior could have evolved to protect them.

The same team had previously studied how mice behave when it comes to itching. In 2017, they discovered that an area of a mouse's brain called the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) responds when they see other mice scratching. In the latest study, the scientists found that the SCN was one part of a brain pathway that is involved with contagious itching.

Mice pick up cues from other mice.

The researchers were surprised to find, however, that the itching response did not include the part of the brain that processes what the mouse sees. They proved this by stopping that part of the brain and watching whether the mouse still scratched themselves when they saw others doing the same. The mice did, which meant that it had to be another part of the brain that caused them to scratch.

A set of experiments revealed that cells (the tiny basic units that make up all living things) in the back of the mice's eyes were sending chemical messages to the SCN. To prove this, the scientists stopped the message from being sent. The mice no longer reacted when they saw their friends scratching. The team believes the scratching reaction in mice was an automatic response that was likely an ancient protective behavior.

"This contagious itch—which is a reflex response in mice, just as grooming is—must be somehow important for survival," said lead researcher Zhou-Feng Chen. For example, it could have been a way of warning the group that a dangerous insect or other threat was nearby.

The research team has yet to determine whether the same pathway is responsible for contagious itching in humans. "We humans also get itchy when we see other people scratch, and we tend to yawn when we see other people yawn, but it's not clear whether the reflex has any use for us," Chen said. It's likely that the contagious itch reflex in humans requires visual cues, he added. The team hopes that their work could one day help experts find solutions for people with conditions that cause itching.

Other contagious behaviors

Yawning is a contagious behavior in humans and in other mammals, including chimpanzees, dogs, and wolves. Some studies have linked contagious yawning to having empathy (understanding and sharing the feelings of another person). It may have evolved as a way to strengthen ties within a group. When people or animals copy each other, they feel more connected.

Researchers believe that laughter is also catching. When your brain determines that other people are laughing, it prepares the muscles in your face to start smiling or laughing too. They have also found that positive reactions, like laughing, are more likely to be contagious than negative responses, like screaming.

Research now shows Moon formed in a flash

For a long time, scientists have believed the Moon formed slowly, over thousands of years. But new research has found that it may have formed in a matter of hours.

Since the 1970s, astronomers (scientists who study stars and objects in space) believed the Moon was created about 4.5 billion years ago after Earth collided with what they think was a planet. The collision would have smashed the planet, which scientists call Theia, into millions of pieces. Those pieces, along with a little bit of material from Earth, could have eventually gathered into a molten sphere that gradually cooled to become the Moon. However, no one is sure exactly how this happened.

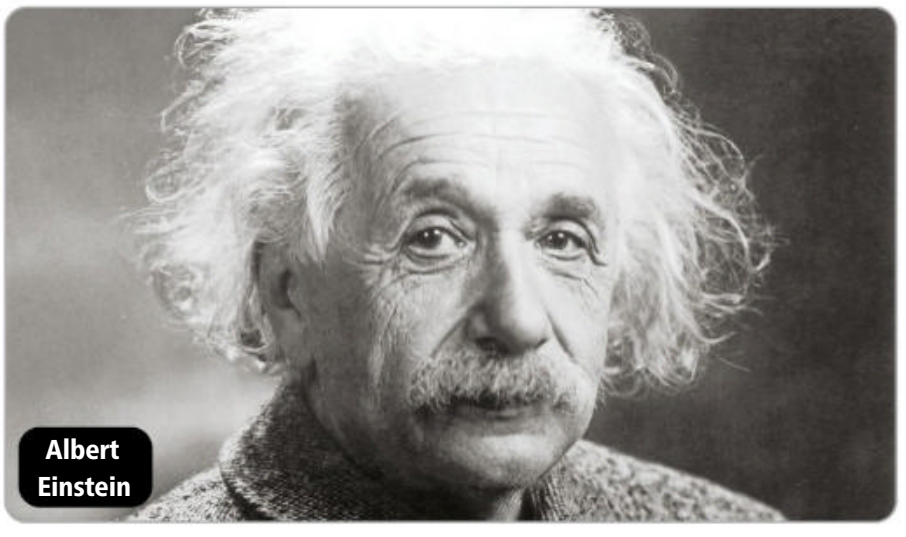
MOON'S MOM
In Greek mythology, Theia is the goddess of vision and light and mother of the Moon goddess, Selene.

An international team of researchers simulated collisions between Earth and Theia, with hundreds of variations in the planets' angle, speed, and spin. They used a supercomputer called COSMA, which showed the results in great detail.

Their models showed that the Moon most likely formed from chunks of Earth and pieces of Theia in several hours—less than half a day. This scenario fits with just about everything that has been observed about the Moon so far. However, samples of rocks and dust from deep beneath the Moon's surface will be needed in order to confirm the theory.

"The more we learn about how the Moon came to be, the more we discover about the evolution of our own Earth," said researcher Vincent Eke.

How was the Moon created?


Albert Einstein

Solving the mystery of messy hair

Scientists have determined why some people have messy hair that can't be tamed, known as "uncombable hair syndrome." The rare condition is thought to be the reason for the scientist Albert Einstein's famously unkempt hair.

A new study found that the condition is the result of a gene mutation that affects the shape of our hair. Genes are found in every cell in our body. They carry information about characteristics passed down from our parents, like eye or hair color. Each gene is made up of sequences of a chemical called DNA. A change in the sequences can sometimes cause a genetic "mutation," like wildly frizzy hair.

Uncombable hair syndrome is more common in children because hair tends to calm down as people age. For a person to have the gene, both of their parents must be carriers of it. They can be carriers even if they don't have frizzy hair themselves.

AMAZING INVENTION

Electric ferry that flies over water

The EF-24

Engineers have designed the first high-speed, all-electric passenger ferry. The EF-24, nicknamed Zero, uses a "foiling" system with underwater wings to push it up and out of the water. This makes it appear to fly over the surface and creates a smoother ride for passengers.

The ferry is designed to reduce air pollution, congestion, and even noise. It can hold up to 150 passengers and reach 38 knots, which is about 44 miles per hour. Zero is also cheaper to operate than traditional ferries. It is set to begin running in Northern Ireland in 2024.

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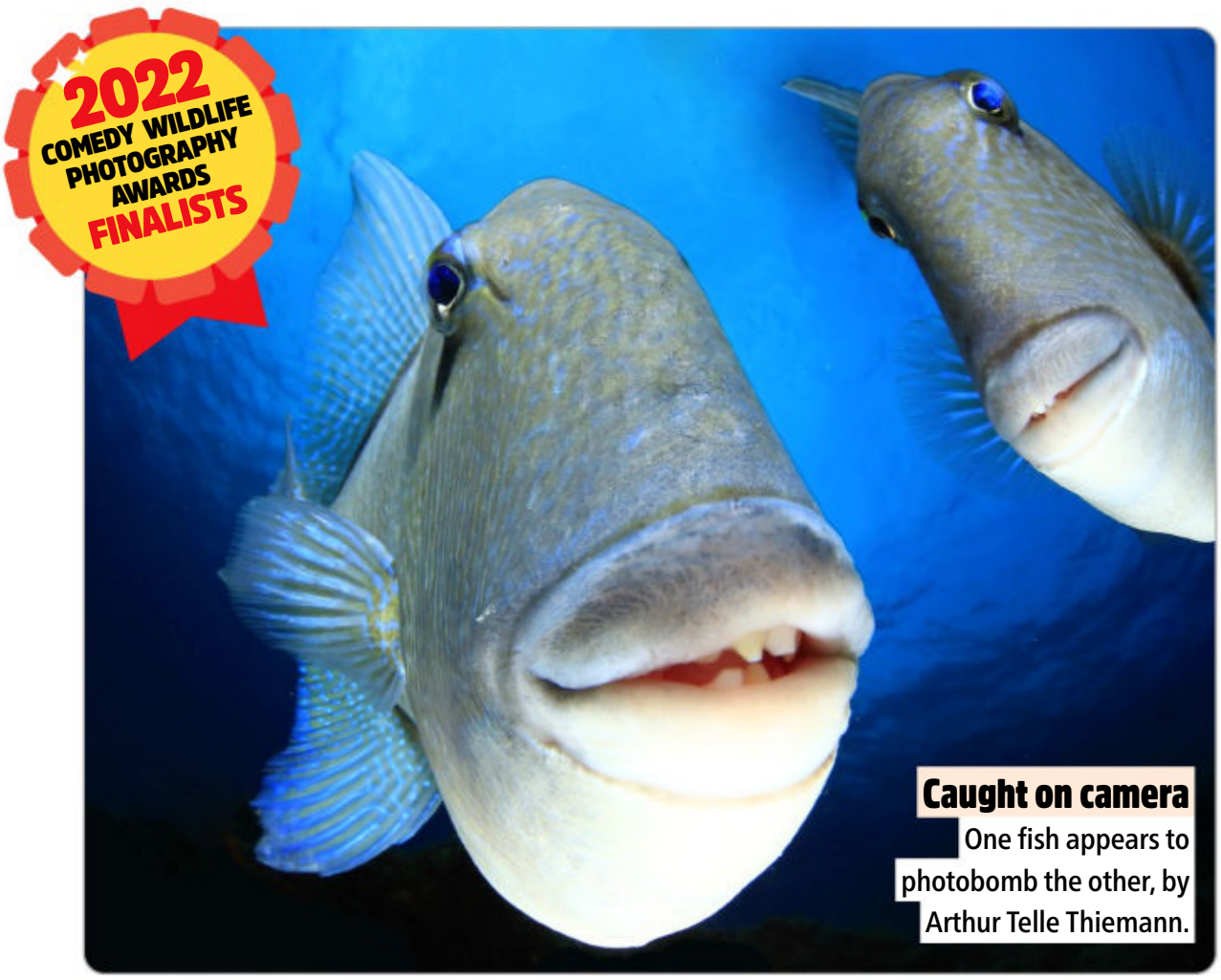
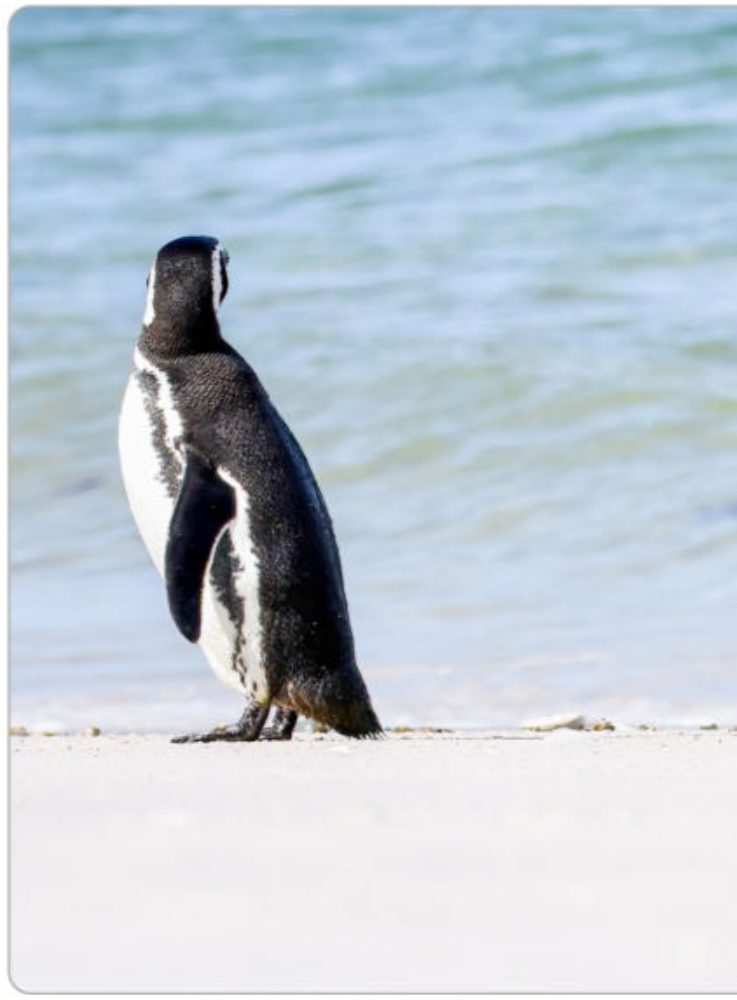
Photos of the week



Caught on camera
One fish appears to photobomb the other, by Arthur Telle Thiemann.



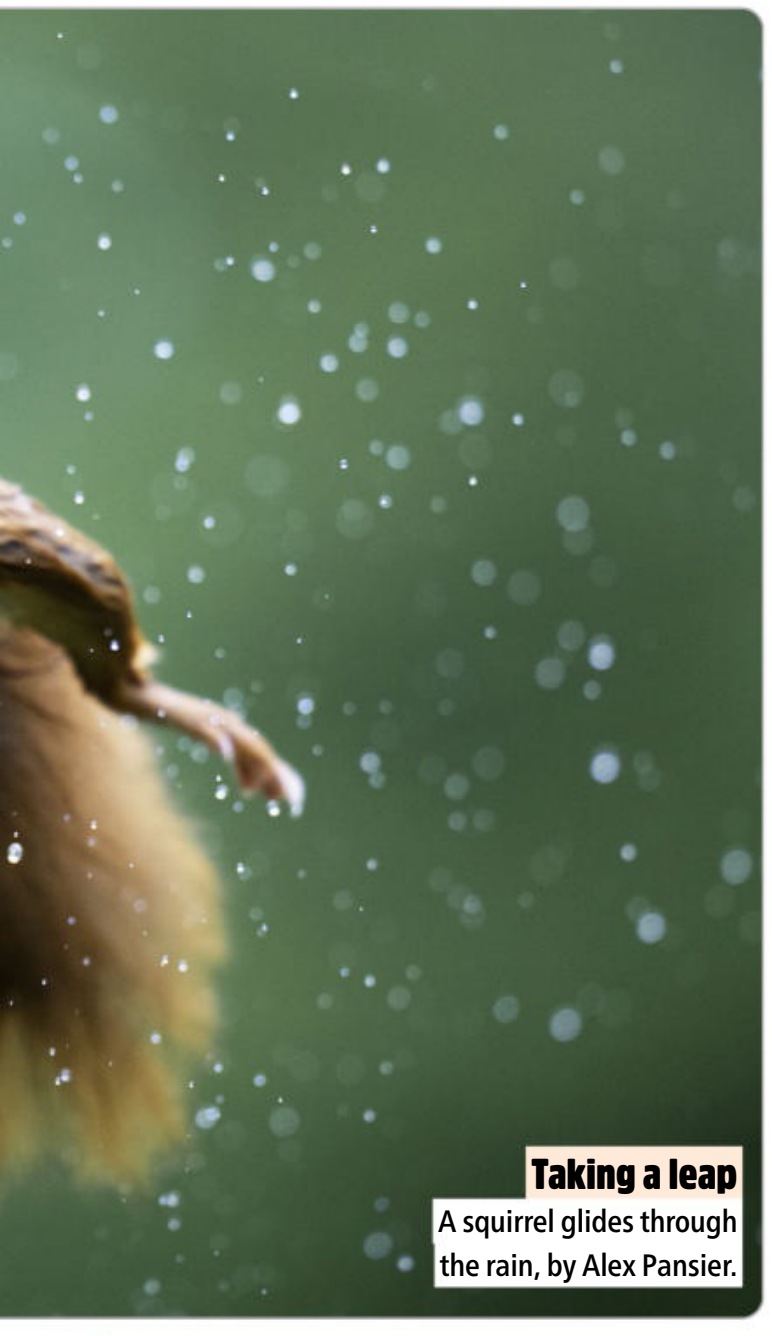
Staring contest
A lion holds still, by Alison Buttigieg.

ALEX PANSIER; JENNIFER HADLEY; ANDY EVANS; ALISON BUTTIGIEG; MIROSLAV SRB; ARTURO TELLE

Photos of the week

Talk to the fin
A penguin gives the cold shoulder, by Jennifer Hadley.

Open wide
A surprised monkey leans out of a tree, by Andy Evans.



Taking a leap
A squirrel glides through the rain, by Alex Pansier.

Say hey
A raccoon waves hello in the snow, by Miroslav Srb.

FUN FACT
The last time any major sports teams from Houston and Philadelphia met in a postseason series was 1977.

The winning team celebrates.

New MLS champions

In the Major League Soccer (MLS) Cup final on November 5, the Philadelphia Union played the Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC). LAFC's Gareth Bale scored a late goal to tie the score at 3–3, forcing a shootout. LAFC was unstoppable. They went 3–0 to take the title.

Houston Astros win the World Series

On November 5, the Houston Astros won Major League Baseball's World Series for the second time in six years. They played the Philadelphia Phillies in six thrilling games, with the final one ending in a 4–1 Astros victory at Minute Maid Park in Houston, Texas. Houston is the first team to clinch the World Series on their home field since the Boston Red Sox won at Fenway Park in 2013.

The Astros have been a top team in the American League (AL) for the past several years. They won their first World Series in 2017, but an investigation revealed they had been stealing signs between their opponents' pitchers and catchers, which is cheating. Since then, the team has been trying to repair its image. They ended the 2022 regular season with 106 wins, the most in the AL.

Dusty Baker

Making the World Series this year was a major feat for the Phillies. They had a slow start to the season and finished third in the National League (NL) East. They came alive in the playoffs and eliminated last year's champions, the Atlanta Braves. They also beat the Astros in Games 1 and 3 of the World Series, which were Houston's only postseason losses.

After the Astros took a close Game 5, they only needed one more win to clinch the title. In the bottom of the sixth of Game 6, the Phillies had a 1–0 lead when Astros outfielder Yordan Alvarez delivered the night's signature moment. With runners on first and third, he launched a home run to center field, giving his team a 3–1 lead. By the end of the inning, they were up 4–1. Thanks to strong pitching, they never looked back.

Winning the World Series was a big moment for Dusty Baker, the Astros manager since 2020. Over 25 years as a manager, Baker, age 73, led five different franchises to the postseason but had never won a championship. He is the third Black manager to guide a team to a World Series title.

Several Astros pitchers had tremendous success throughout the series, including Framber Valdez. He was responsible for two of Houston's four wins against the Phillies, including Game 6. Astros shortstop and rookie Jeremy Peña was named World Series Most Valuable Player (MVP). He piled up 10 hits over the course of the series.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

DISTANCE RUNNING

On an unseasonably warm and humid November 6, Kenya's Evans Chebet won the men's division of the New York City Marathon, finishing the 26.2-mile course in 2:08:41. Fellow Kenyan Sharon Lokedi won the women's race in 2:23:23. Wheelchair racers Marcel Hug of Switzerland and Susannah Scaroni of the US won their events, and both set course records. Fabio Faborges of Brazil came in first among handcycle racers.

Sharon Lokedi and Evans Chebet

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

During a win over the Los Angeles Rams on November 6, Tom Brady of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers became the first quarterback to pass for more than 100,000 yards in the regular season and playoffs combined.

SWIMMING

At the FINA Swimming World Cup on November 5, American Katie Ledecky set a new world record in the 800-meter freestyle. It was the second record she broke in a week.

WOW! Gymnast Simone Biles has won a record 23 gold medals at the Olympics and World Championships combined.

The US women's gymnastics team

US gymnasts earn historic gold

The US women's gymnastics team made history in Liverpool, England, on November 1. That day, they won a record-breaking sixth consecutive team gold at the World Artistic Gymnastics Championships. They proved their strength and talent even without superstars Suni Lee and Simone Biles participating.

The members of the US team were Tokyo Olympic medalists Jordan Chiles and Jade Carey, along with Leanne Wong, Shilese Jones, and Skye Blakely. They beat Great Britain, who won silver, by more than three points. Canada took bronze. All three countries qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics. Because of the war in Ukraine, Russia was not allowed to have a team at the meet.

On November 3, Jones and Carey competed in the all-around competition. The favorite to win was Rebeca Andrade of Brazil, the silver medalist from the Tokyo Olympics. Andrade's first event of the day was the vault, where she earned a combined score of 15.166. It ended up being the highest score for any gymnast on any apparatus in the entire all-around. Andrade won the gold, a first for a South American gymnast in an all-around. Jones took the silver.

Several American women also competed in individual apparatus finals. In the floor exercise, Chiles won silver and Carey tied with Andrade for bronze. On vault, Carey won gold and Chiles took silver. Jones won silver on the uneven bars.

On the men's side, the US placed fifth in the team final. American Brody Malone came up just short of earning a bronze in the all-around. However, he won the gold in the high bar, which had not been done by an American man since 1979. It is his first world title.

COACH OF THE WEEK

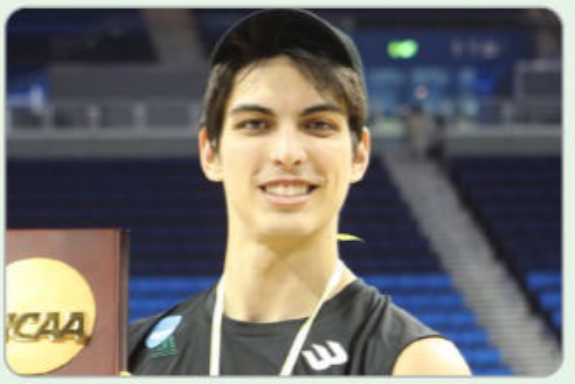
Coach's Name: **Nicole Chapman**

Team: **Royalty (U13 girls soccer)**

"Coach Nikki is the best coach ever! She is helpful and kind, and she always makes you feel like your best is good enough. She never puts anyone down if they miss shots or a pass and she always makes us feel like we are learning. She is the most supportive coach and makes everyone on our team feel good about themselves and their game." Sienna, 10, Oregon

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com.* Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Cole Hogland

AGE: 22 SPORT: MEN'S VOLLEYBALL
TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Good advice My mom told me to try out for my school volleyball team back in middle school. At the time, I was only playing basketball and baseball. I thought, OK, whatever. But all my friends were doing it, so I tried it for the first time and realized it was actually pretty fun.

Role model My older brother is a basketball player. He's been the biggest influence on me. He was always there for me and pushed me to be my best.

Island life We practice five days a week, but during light times or the summer, I'll also play beach volleyball somewhere. Being in Hawaii, going to the beach is a big thing. I like to bodyboard or go surfing on the weekends or anytime when there are waves and I have free time.

High points Last year, I was on the court when we won the national championship. That was a big accomplishment. Another one is starting on a volleyball team. I'm a middle blocker and I'm 6'4", which is undersized for the position. Being shorter is a disadvantage, so I have to work on being quick.

Court focus For big games, we get a lot of support from fans and have a lot of people watching us. I just try to calm my nerves and think about what I can do regarding the team's goal.

Future plans This year, I want to win another championship—we're going for the three-peat. After college, I hope to play professional volleyball in Japan. There is only one international player allowed per team, but I have American and Japanese citizenship.

GETTY IMAGES (2); LBSU; ON THE LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3)

WOW!
Since Dodger Stadium opened in Los Angeles, California, in April 1962, more than 147 million people have attended an event there.

Sir Elton John

A legend's last US show

Music star Elton John is wrapping up the North American leg of his farewell tour with a livestream from Dodger Stadium.

Sir Elton John, a legendary British singer and composer, is ending his final North American tour and giving people across the world a chance to watch his last US concert from home. On November 20, Disney+ will live-stream *Elton John Live: Farewell from Dodger Stadium* from Los Angeles, California. The special event will remain on the platform after the premiere.

John, age 75, is well known for catchy pop and rock songs and his flashy style. Over more than 50 years, he has released 31 studio albums, sold more than 300 million records worldwide, and won five Grammys (top music award). He recently had a number one hit, "Cold Heart," with pop star Dua Lipa. John credits much of his success to his longtime songwriting collaborator, Bernie Taupin.

The singer kicked off his *Farewell Yellow Brick Road* tour in 2018 and it will end next summer in Stockholm, Sweden. He recently said that although music will continue to be part of his life, he has had enough of traveling around the world to perform. "I've done it since I was 17," he said.

At the show, John will sing some of his greatest hits, such as "Tiny Dancer," "Crocodile Rock," and "Rocket Man," along with his latest number one, "Hold Me Closer," which he released with pop star Britney Spears. Special celebrity guests are expected to appear onstage.

Disney+ is planning to release a feature documentary about John in 2023. It will include unseen rehearsal and concert footage from throughout the singer's career, excerpts from his handwritten journals, and more.

3 facts about Elton John

Early years

The singer was born Reginald Kenneth Dwight in the UK. He taught himself to play piano at age 3 and began attending the Royal Academy of Music in London at age 11.

Elton John at age 6

Career range

John has written original music and lyrics for musicals including *The Lion King*, *Billy Elliot*, and the Broadway show *Aida*. In 1995, he won an Oscar (top film award) for Best Original Song for *The Lion King*'s "Can You Feel the Love Tonight."

Major honor

In 1998, he was awarded a knighthood (highest British civilian honor) from Queen Elizabeth II. It was for his contribution to music and his Elton John AIDS Foundation, a global charity.

Circuit Breakers

Sci-fi series about middle schoolers

A new TV series is combining science fiction with middle school life. *Circuit Breakers* is set in a not-too-distant future where kids try using high-tech solutions to deal with relatable issues such as wanting to be better at sports or having divorced parents. The series is now on Apple TV+.

Circuit Breakers is an anthology series, which means each episode features its own story and main characters. Almost all of them take place in the same time period and location. The show's creator, Melody Fox, told *The Week Junior* she decided to make an anthology series because each episode is like a mini-movie with its own predicament. "You can change the tone a little bit from episode to episode," she added. Some are mysterious, some are funny, and some are more heartfelt.

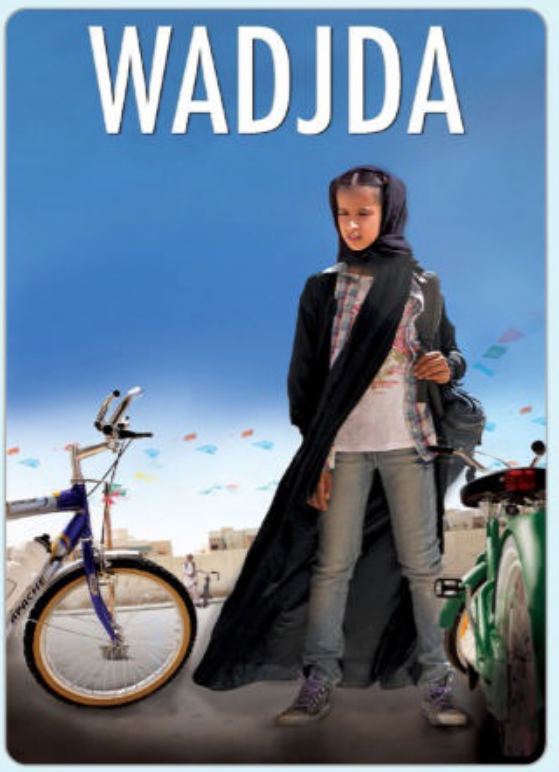
Executive producer Andrew Orenstein told *The Week Junior* that the creative team came up with technology ideas for each episode "that could help us tell the story in a way that we've never seen before." There's a remote that can control parents, a machine that generates memories, a robot double to do chores, plus time-freezing and body-swapping. The kids learn lessons from unexpected consequences. "I think this show is an opportunity to impart information in a really entertaining way that will stimulate conversation," Fox said.

MOVIE NIGHT

If you're looking for a film to watch with family or friends, consider this pick of the week.

Wadjda (2013) PG

Available to rent or buy on all major platforms



This was the first feature film shot entirely in Saudi Arabia. It was directed by that country's first female filmmaker and follows 10-year-old Wadjda, a girl from Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. She attends a strict Islamic school, where she must wear a long robe and a headscarf. She really wants a bike so she can race a boy in her neighborhood, but girls are not allowed to ride bikes where she lives. Still, Wadjda has her heart set on a green one from a local shop and she finds ways to make money so she can buy it. She sells bracelets, runs errands, and enters a school competition. Her parents, meanwhile, are feeling pressure from their family to have a son. Life seems stacked against Wadjda. Will she be able to succeed? The film is in Arabic with English subtitles.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Jurassic World: Camp Cretaceous Hidden Adventure

(Netflix)

This interactive special is set between seasons two and three of the popular series about teens trapped on a dinosaur-filled island. You'll use your TV remote to make decisions and unlock clues on a quest for food after a big storm.

Woodpeckers: The Hole Story

(PBS.org)

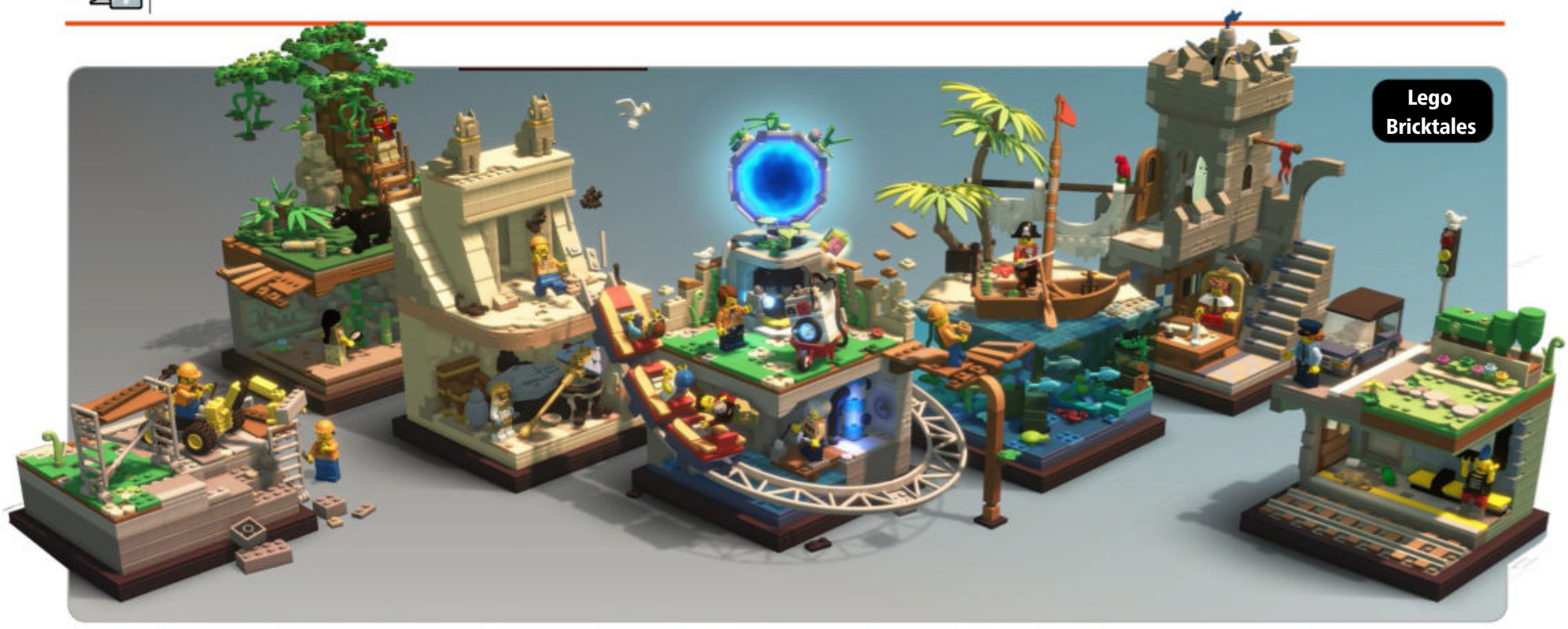
There are 239 species of woodpeckers in the world, and this episode of *Nature* reveals what makes some of them so special. Find out about acorn woodpeckers making tree holes to store nuts, gila woodpeckers carving nests in the desert over several months, and more.

Criss Angel's Magic with the Stars

(The CW)

World-famous magician Criss Angel hosts this new competition series filled with mind-blowing illusions. Stars such as Corbin Bleu (*High School Musical*) and Olympic figure skater Tara Lipinski perform Angel's own tricks before a panel of judges as they compete for a Golden Wand.

APPLE TV+: COURTESY OF NETFLIX; COURTESY OF RUSSELL KAYE/THE WNET GROUP; BRYAN STEFFY/THE CW; SONY PICTURES CLASSICS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES; DISNEY+; ELTONJOHN.COM; ALAMY (2)



Build with Legos in new game

Lego Bricktales is a new adventure game that combines puzzle-solving and building. It was recently released for the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation platforms, Xbox systems, and PC. In recent years, Lego characters have starred in animated films and video games, such as the Lego Star Wars franchise. Lego Bricktales, however, is an original video game with new characters.

In the game, you play as a Lego minifig kid who has to help his wacky grandfather revive his struggling theme park. The park is powered by happiness crystals, which are produced by helping a person solve a problem. The grandfather doesn't have crystals, but he does have a teleportation machine. The grandson and his robot, Rusty, use it to travel to different biomes (environments) to assist people. Lego fans will recognize many of the settings because they're classic sets such as pirate beaches, castles, and cities.

DID YOU KNOW?
The largest Lego set is a world map that contains 11,695 pieces.

The magic of Bricktales is that it's the closest any video game has ever come to playing with real Legos. You may be tasked with building a bridge, repairing a tower, or constructing a tree for a cat to scratch. You'll be given specific Lego pieces to use, and you have to drag them to place them where you want them to go. The game may be virtual, but the rules of physics still apply, so builds have to be solid and strong. There's room for creativity, though. The biomes are filled with items and prizes that the minifig can collect and find. So after you earn some happiness crystals and hand them over, you'll still have reasons to keep exploring.

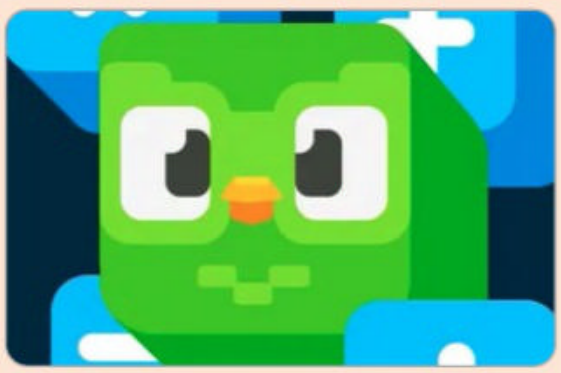
PODCAST OF THE WEEK

WILD THING

Apple Podcasts

Ever wondered whether Bigfoot is real or aliens exist? Those are two subjects covered in this narrative series that looks at the way science and our society shape popular obsessions. Season one, "The Search for Sasquatch," inspired a new middle-grade nonfiction book.

APP OF THE WEEK



DUOLINGO MATH

Apple App Store

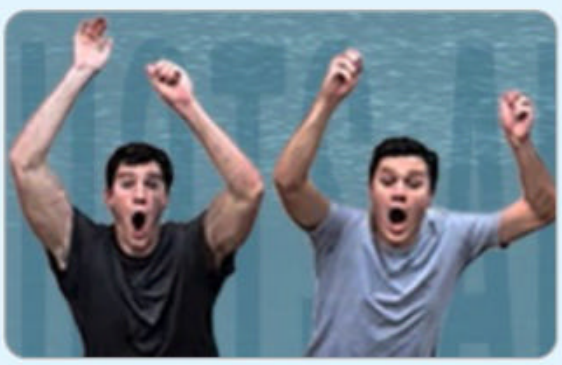
The company famous for its language learning app has launched this new free app to help kids get better at math. Animations and interactive exercises make it a fun way to learn and practice multiplication, fractions, geometry, and more. It also has characters to cheer on your success.

CHANNEL OF THE WEEK

DND HULLET

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-DnD

Brothers Daniel and David Hullet are masters of complex trick shots. They can toss or hit items such as darts, pencils, and balls so precisely that they land perfectly on a tiny target. Their channel has clips and compilations that show off their skills—and their excitement from their accomplishments.



LEGO (2); FOXTOPUS; DUOLINGO; DND HULETT/YOUTUBE

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Midnight at the Shelter

By Nanci Turner Steveson

(Quill Tree Books)

MomDoc, a veterinarian, rescues a three-legged dog from an animal shelter. She names him MahDi, which means "good dog." MahDi and MomDoc help out at the shelter, and they have a knack for matching dogs and owners together. When the shelter's manager becomes ill, his replacement, Huck, doesn't take good care of the animals. The situation gets worse when MomDoc is out of town. MahDi embarks on a mission to free the animals and find them new homes. This suspenseful book is told mostly from the perspective of MahDi, who talks to the other animals. One of the best chapters is a flashback that explains how MahDi lost his leg. The author's note describes the real-life rescue dogs that inspired this story.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of *Midnight at the Shelter.*

For a chance to win, send your name and address to *contests@theweekjunior.com* with Shelter in the subject line. Enter by midnight on December 2. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.

ASK THE AUTHOR

Nanci Turner Steveson

We spoke to the author of *Midnight at the Shelter.*

What inspired you to write this book?
I have had one rescue dog after another. And every one of them has a different story. I've always been passionate about caring for animals in shelters.

How did you write from a dog's point of view?
It was super hard. I piled dogs around me while I was writing. There's a fine line between what a dog does or doesn't know. Does a dog know what an elbow is? I had to determine what a dog would understand and translate that to the page.

What animal would you most want to be?
A dog. I know it's not a very creative answer, but they are so easy to love.

Starting Wordle word?
I think I'm the only person on the planet to never try Wordle.

City or country?
Country. If I can be in the woods, I'm in the woods.

READER RECOMMENDS

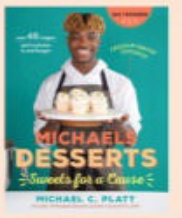
The Magic Misfits *By Neil Patrick Harris*

"I would like to recommend this book series to all the readers. It has four books in the series. The series follows a group of kids who can do extraordinary magic. Each book is told in the voice of one of the main characters. These books show you that even when you're young, you can do extraordinary things." Liam, 11, New Jersey

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

4 new cookbooks created just for kids

These picks have tasty recipes you could make for Thanksgiving.



Michaels Desserts: Sweets for a Cause

By Michael C. Platt

(Get Creative 6)

This book was written by the 16-year-old founder of a baking business that helps children in need. You'll find recipes for cupcakes, tarts, and more. Apple hand pies or sweet potato pie cupcakes would be perfect for Thanksgiving. *Ages 8 and up*

Kids Can Cook Anything!

By America's Test Kitchen Kids

(America's Test Kitchen)

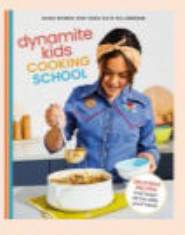
More than 15,000 young cooks tested this book's recipes. Flip to the chapter on side dishes to find fall recipes, such as Roasted Carrots and Chive Biscuits. There are also some dishes you could make using Thanksgiving leftovers. *Ages 8 and up*

Super Good Cookies for Kids

By Duff Goldman

(HarperCollins)

Cookies aren't a common Thanksgiving dessert, but they could become a tradition in your home. This book from the host of Kids Baking Championship has recipes for fall treats like Cape Cod Cranberry Cookies and Pumpkin Spice Latte cookies. There's a chapter on making gluten-free cookies. *Ages 8 and up*



Dynamite Kids Cooking School

By Dana Bowen and Sara Kate Gillingham

(Clarkson Potter)

Written by the founders of a cooking school for kids ages 7 to 17, this book emphasizes flavors. You'll find out what ingredients make salad dressings taste even better. One dish you might like to make for Thanksgiving is the Apple Cranberry Salad. *Ages 8 and up*

BOOKS: COURTESY THE PUBLISHERS; AUTHOR: COURTESY NANCI TURNER STEVESON; GETTY IMAGES

DID YOU KNOW?
A survey found that 59% of Americans say they have one person they consider a best friend.

Plan a friendsgiving meal

This special gathering can help you celebrate your friendships.

A friendsgiving is when friends gather together to show thanks for their friendships. The name is a blend between friends and Thanksgiving. Hosting a friendsgiving can be a wonderful way to celebrate with people you care about. Here's how to get started.

Choose a date

A good time to hold this party is either the weekend before or the weekend after Thanksgiving. You'll want to avoid the actual holiday of Thanksgiving, since most of your attendees will most likely have plans with their family for that Thursday. Ask a parent to help you settle on a date that is best for you to host and when most of your friends are available.

Make a menu

A friendsgiving meal is similar to a Thanksgiving meal, except it's more casual. For example, instead of roasting a turkey, you could get club sandwiches from a deli or make turkey roll-ups with cranberry sauce. A vegetarian pasta would also make a great main course. Tell friends the meal will be a potluck, which means they should plan to bring a dish—such as an appetizer, side dish, or dessert—that will be served along with the main course you will provide. To make sure guests don't bring the same dish, keep a list of who is bringing what.

Try a new recipe.

Or skip the big meal

You don't have to serve a traditional dinner at your friendsgiving. It's up to you! Instead, you could just have appetizers and treats. Everyone could sign up to bring a snack that is inspired by fall flavors, like sweet potato chips or pumpkin spice brownies.

Decorate your space

Make a sign for your front door that welcomes everyone. If you're sitting at a table, you could make place cards for each person. Cut shapes from colorful paper, then write a friend's name on each one. To make it more fun, instead of writing their name on a place card, write a little clue about each person and see if everyone can guess theirs. Add streamers that are left over from other parties to make it festive.

Do an activity together

It's also fun to plan an activity for your event. One idea is for your group to make the turkey decorations on the next page. If you gather the supplies in advance, this could be a fun craft to do together, and your guests can take home what they make. You could also put out a big puzzle for everyone to work on, stream a Thanksgiving movie, like *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving* or *Free Birds*, or head outside for a game of flag football.

4 ways to show friends you care

Besides planning a friendsgiving, here are other ways you can express gratitude to your friends.

Remember special events

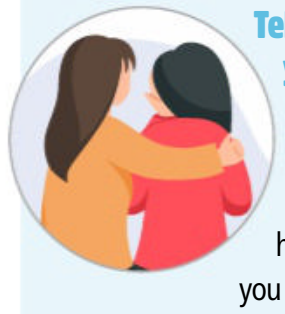
Keep a calendar with your friends' birthdays on it. When you see a birthday coming up, think of something special to do for them, such as making a card or buying them their favorite snack.

Get together

If you often spend time with friends in a larger group, making a plan with just one of them can be a great way to get to know them better. You could meet at your home or a park.

Be supportive

An important part of being a good friend is supporting each other. If they are playing a solo in a concert, try to attend. If a family pet died, ask them how they're doing or if they want to talk about their emotions.



Tell them how you feel

You may think your friend knows how much you value their friendship, but they might not. Tell your friend how awesome you think they are. It always makes people feel good to know that others care about them.

WOW!
A wild adult turkey has at least 5,000 feathers covering its body.

Turn fruit into clever turkey decorations

What you need

- Grapes, berries, candy corn, dried mango or apricot, and almond slivers, for the various features
- Toothpicks
- Apples or clementines, for the body
- Nonpareil sprinkles, poppy seeds, black sesame seeds, or a black food coloring marker (for eyes)
- Paring knife (optional)

Instructions

1. Choose a piece of fruit or candy to be tbe turkey's head. Push the blunt end of the toothpick into the head. Attach the head to the turkey's fruit body (clementine or apple) using the pointed end of the toothpick. Carefully break the toothpick in half if it's too long.

2. With a toothpick, make two holes in the head for eyes. Choose small black items (see list at left), and press them into each hole to make eyes. You could also draw the eyes onto the head with a food coloring marker.

3. Next, add a beak and wattle. To make these, create small slits in the head with a toothpick or paring knife (ask an adult for help if you use a knife) and press in almond slivers.

4. Add feathers and wings. If using almond slices, use a paring knife to make slits in the turkey's body and slide in almonds. If using soft items, like candy corn and dried mango or apricot, use a toothpick to attach each one to the body. You can also cut up dried mango or apricot into smaller pieces for feathers.

LOTS OF FRUIT
It takes about 30 to 40 apples to make one gallon of apple cider.

JODI LEVINE FOR SUPERMAKEIT; ERICA CLARK FOR STONE KITCHEN CREATIVE; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Make caramel apple cider

Ingredients

- 2 ½ cups fresh apple cider
- 3 tablespoons store-bought caramel sauce, divided
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using the stove.

Instructions

1. Pour the apple cider into a medium saucepan and bring it to a gentle simmer over medium heat. Add 1 tablespoon of the caramel sauce and stir to combine.

2. Meanwhile, combine the sugar and cinnamon in a small shallow bowl or on a plate. Put 2 tablespoons of the caramel sauce in a separate shallow bowl or plate. Dip the rim of a mug into the caramel sauce to coat, then dip the rim in the cinnamon-sugar mixture.

3. Carefully pour the apple cider into the mugs, making sure not to touch the rim. Makes 2 servings.

Keyword crossword

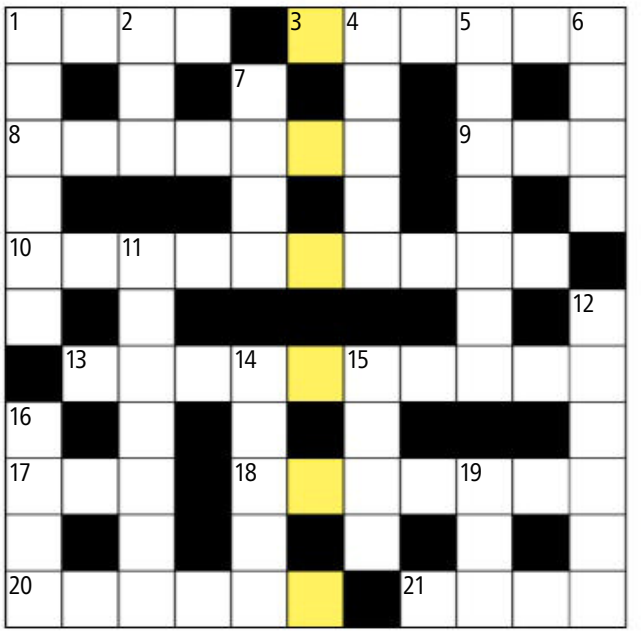
Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.

ACROSS

1 Like 2, 4, 6, or 2022
3 Word on many packages of peanuts
8 _____ events (things happening now)
9 Line of auditorium seats
10 Thief who might steal things out of your coat
13 Voice amplifier
17 One of the bones that form the "cage" around your heart and lungs
18 Obtain the newer, better version of a device
20 Animal that represents Thanksgiving
21 Word from a clerk who has finished helping one customer

DOWN

1 Break out of confinement
2 Part of the body that rhymes with what it can do
4 High space in a house where things might be stored
5 It's fired underwater at a ship during wartime
6 Sunrise
7 Give assistance to
11 Person making her way up a mountain
12 Area with very little rain or vegetation
14 This is shown by a car's GPS
15 A sheet of paper in a book
16 A horse's gait that is faster than a walk
19 Top card when a deck of playing cards is put in order



Keyword question: Which character has appeared the most times as a giant balloon in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade?

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of Thanksgiving foods, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded Y. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

I Z L L P H L T P M

Z V T M C C B Z F L X

Y Z T P H L Z Z X M T B Y L

THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

FOOD FRIDAY MEAL DRIVE HOME SALES CANNED COOKED BLACK

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Cutting room

Divide this grid into five sections so each section consists of five adjacent boxes containing the numbers 1–5. The sections may have different shapes.

4	5	3	4	2
1	2	1	5	1
3	5	4	1	3
5	1	2	5	2
3	3	4	2	4

Spot the difference

These two pictures of tropical fish appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

Code cracker hint: Every Z here is an uncoded R.

That's unbelievable!

It's hard to cheat with a helmet on.

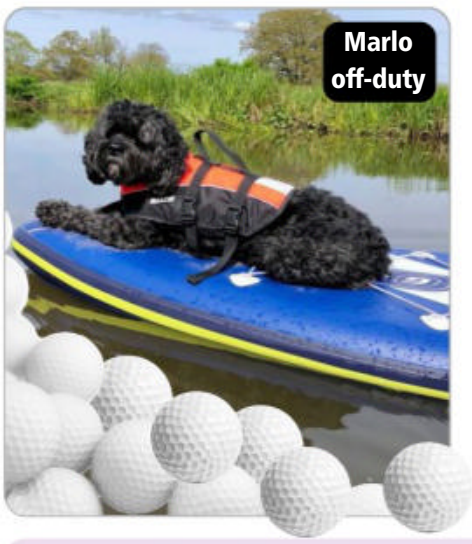
Students make anti-cheating hats

Mary Joy Mandane Ortiz, a professor at an engineering college in the Philippines, challenged her students to make cheating-proof hats to wear during their exams. Her students delivered, coming up with funky headgear that blocked their vision with egg cartons, tubes, bubble wrap, and paper wigs. "I was surprised, because I simply requested [they make] a very simple one, but they made very creative ones," she said. Ortiz added that cheating had never been an issue in her class, so the challenge was "just for fun."

Jazzing up a surgery

Doctors in Italy performed a nine-hour brain surgery while the patient played the Italian national anthem on his saxophone. Patients are usually put to sleep for such procedures, but the doctors said that by playing the instrument while they worked, the patient, who is a musician, helped them understand the different regions of the brain and their functions. "Each surgery of this kind is a window into the complexity of the brain," he said.

The patient player



Marlo off-duty

The canine caddy

Before you "putt" aside the idea that a dog can help with the game of golf, consider Marlo. This cavapoo dog loves chasing down lost balls at golf courses near his home in the UK. Marlo has helped his owner, Charles Jefferson, collect more than 6,000 balls in five years. Jefferson keeps his favorites and gives others away. "I partly see it as...a service, picking up a lot of litter," he said.

Real or fake?

Would you refuse to eat refuse?

Garbage is on the menu

At a San Francisco restaurant, one person's trash is another person's dinner. The restaurant, called Shuggie's Trash Pie, gets many of its ingredients from farmers who would otherwise throw them away. Every dish has at least three to five "upcycled" elements, such as tomato sauce made from a farm's excess tomatoes. "Restaurants are notorious for being wasteful," the restaurant's co-founder said. "We're trying to change that." Is this story real, or is it a load of garbage?*

It's good, clean fun!

Foam-filled fun fight at school

Hundreds of students took part in a shaving foam fight at St. Andrew's University in Fife, Scotland. It is part of a tradition called Raisin Monday that dates back to 1413. It comes at the end of a weekend when the first-year students dress up in costumes and thank older students for helping them settle into university life. In the past, the first-years would give the older students a bag of raisins, but now they give money to charity instead. After the fight, it's a tradition for the university's principal to hose down some of the soapy students.

*Real! The restaurant wants to fight food waste as a way to help the planet. Its menu tells its customers, "Thank you for eating your way to a sustainable future!"

"COURTESY FACEBOOK/@MAJOYMANDZ; COURTESY OF PAIDEIA INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL; CHARLES JEFFERSON; GETTY IMAGES; ALAMY; COURTESY OF SHUGGIE'S; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Your turn

Editor's note

When this issue of *The Week Junior* went to press on November 8 at 6 pm Eastern time, voting in the midterm elections was still taking place across America (p2). Millions of people had cast their ballots for their preferred candidates already, and many more were set to do so in the hours that remained before the polls closed. We will be paying very close attention to the results of the races for the US Senate and House of Representatives, as well as the many additional races at the state and local level, and will have a full report on the results next week. Voting is an important right and a vital part of our democracy, and I'm excited to find out what happens! If you'd like to have a say about what democracy means to you, see the instructions in the box below and send your form to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

In Times Square

Jackson, Hala, Augustus, Nissa, and Eliana

Meeting other Junior Council members

"I was on *The Week Junior*'s first Junior Council in Spring 2021. I made great friends with all the other council members. Most of us hadn't met in person, so I was really excited when a few members—Eliana, Hala, Jackson, and Nissa—came to New York City, which is where I live. It was very cool showing them around. Our first stop was the roof of my apartment building to see the Manhattan skyline. The next day, we took a cruise on the Hudson River to see the Statue of Liberty. Then we ate lunch at Junior's (get it?), and we went to the Broadway show *Wicked*. One of the highlights was meeting Editor-in-Chief Andrea Barbalich in Times Square. Bari Nan Rothchild, the moderator for Junior Council, even came from Utah to be with us. By the end of the weekend, we learned a lot more about one another. It was hard to say goodbye. We want to do it again so more Junior Council members can join us."
—Augustus, 10, New York

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What did the inventor of the knock-knock joke win?

A no-bell prize

CHARITY OF THE WEEK

Action Against Hunger

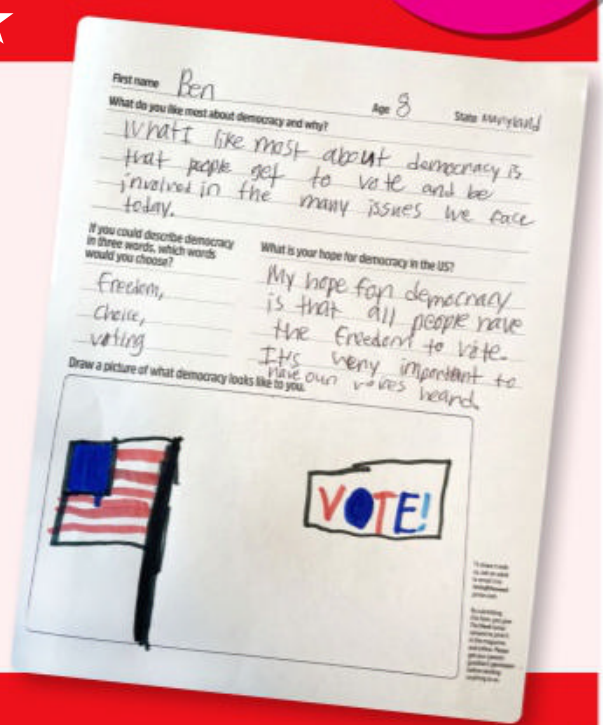
This organization works to end hunger and prevent the health problems that occur when people don't have enough to eat. By working with local health centers and mobile teams, it ensures that malnourished people receive care. It also provides communities affected by natural disasters with emergency aid. Each year, its programs reach more than 24 million people. Learn more at actionagainsthunger.org.

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Celebrating our democracy

A founding principle of the United States is that it's a democracy—meaning that citizens hold the power to elect the people who govern them. As a reader of *The Week Junior*, you may have opinions about the results of Election Day on November 8 and America's democratic process. We want to hear them! Download a form at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities. Fill it out, then have an adult email it to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*. We'll feature some of the submissions on this page in future issues.

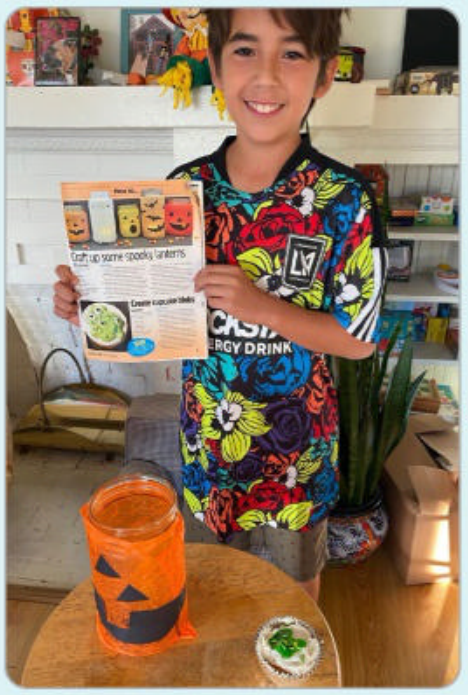

First name Ben
Age 8
What do you like most about democracy and why?
What I like most about democracy is that people get to vote and be involved in the many issues we face today.
If you could describe democracy in three words, which words would you choose?
Freedom, Choice, voting
What is your hope for democracy in the US?
My hope for democracy is that all people have the freedom to vote. It's very important to have our voices heard.
Draw a picture of what democracy looks like to you.
VOTE!

THE WEEK Junior **IT'S YOUR TURN** Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

Your turn

YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"My friends and I had a fun time making the lanterns and cupcake blobs from How To for Halloween." Theo, 10, California

"My goats try to eat *The Week Junior* because it's full of delicious news!" Mabel, 8, North Carolina

"I made the Halloween lanterns from your last issue and thought you might like to see!" Catherine, 10, Washington

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mrs. Smith**

School: **University School**

"Mrs. Smith is our social studies teacher for seventh and eighth grade and the pre-algebra teacher. She used to be a language arts teacher, and that shows that she really knows her stuff. She teaches me social studies and math and is always cheerful and thinks about people's feelings. She encourages students to do their best and is understanding. Mrs. Smith is amazing!"

Evelyn, 12, Oklahoma

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Keyword answer: Snoopy

Code cracker
green beans
roast turkey
cranberry sauce

Three for all
home-cooked meal
canned food drive
Black Friday sales

4	5	3	4	2
1	2	1	5	1
3	5	4	1	3
5	1	2	5	2
3	3	4	2	4

E	V	E	N	■	S	A	L	T	E	D
S	■	A	■	H	■	T	■	O	■	A
C	U	R	R	E	N	T	■	R	O	W
A	■	■	■	L	■	I	■	P	■	N
P	I	C	K	P	O	C	K	E	T	■
E	■	L	■	■	■	■	■	D	■	D
■	M	I	C	R	O	P	H	O	N	E
T	■	M	■	O	■	A	■	■	■	S
R	I	B	■	U	P	G	R	A	D	E
O	■	E	■	T	■	E	■	C	■	R
T	U	R	K	E	Y	■	N	E	X	T

Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 a) San Francisco **2** b) Golf **3** Shallow **4** True **5** Saudi Arabia **6** a) Boston Red Sox **7** True **8** Lena Horne **9** a) Gorillas **10** False. It is pumpkin pie. **11** b) 34 **12** Happiness crystals **13** b) Diego Maradona **14** b) 31 **15** b) Saxophone

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjuniorus on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What animal would you want your teacher to adopt as a class pet?

"A rabbit because it could hop around the classroom."

"An amphibian like a frog or salamander would be cool!"

"Probably a lizard, if someone has an allergy. If not, then a bunny."

"A hamster. It is easy to care for and would be a good pet."

In the big debate, we asked: Should people be eating more insects?

"People can if they want, but it shouldn't be forced."

"Although insects have protein, eating them could wipe out a lot of the population."

"No, as it probably sounds disgusting to most people."

"Only when you have to."

Now tell us: What is your favorite song and why?

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

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Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Which US city has been named the best for sandwich lovers?

a) San Francisco b) Sarasota c) Wilmington

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 A UK dog named Marlo helps his owner chase down lost balls used in which sport?

a) Baseball b) Golf c) Soccer

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

3 Do European tree frogs prefer to live in ponds that are deep or shallow?

4 True or false? New research found that the Moon formed in a matter of hours.

True ☐ False ☐

5 The movie *Wadjda* is the first feature film to be shot completely in what country?

6 The Houston Astros are the first baseball team to clinch the World Series at home since which team won in 2013?

a) Boston Red Sox

b) Kansas City Royals

c) San Francisco Giants

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

7 True or false? The story in the new book *Midnight at the Shelter* is told mostly from the perspective of a dog.

True ☐ False ☐

8 Who is the first Black woman to have a Broadway theater named after her?

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

9 Scientists recently determined that chimpanzees can be friends with what other kind of primate?

a) Gorillas b) Lemurs c) Orangutans

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? A 2021 poll found that America's favorite Thanksgiving pie is apple pie.

True ☐ False ☐

11 How many US Senate seats will be decided in the midterm elections?

a) 24 b) 34 c) 44

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 In the video game Lego Bricktales, the player tries to help a theme park that is powered by what?

13 In 1986, which player scored what is considered to be the greatest goal in World Cup history?

a) Pelé

b) Diego Maradona

c) Lionel Messi

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

14 How many studio albums has Sir Elton John released during his career?

a) 21 b) 31 c) 41

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

15 A man in Italy recently played what instrument while undergoing surgery?

a) Flute b) Saxophone c) Violin

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

THE WEEK Junior

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The Week Junior (ISSN 2689-9027) is published weekly, except January 7, January 14, July 15, and September 16. *The Week Junior* is published by Future PLC, 135 West 41st Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10036. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTERS: Send change of address to *The Week Junior,* PO Box 37595, Boone, IA 50037-7595.

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BIG BIRDS

Wild turkeys are found in forests throughout the US and in parts of Canada and Mexico. They can lay up to 17 eggs at a time.

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